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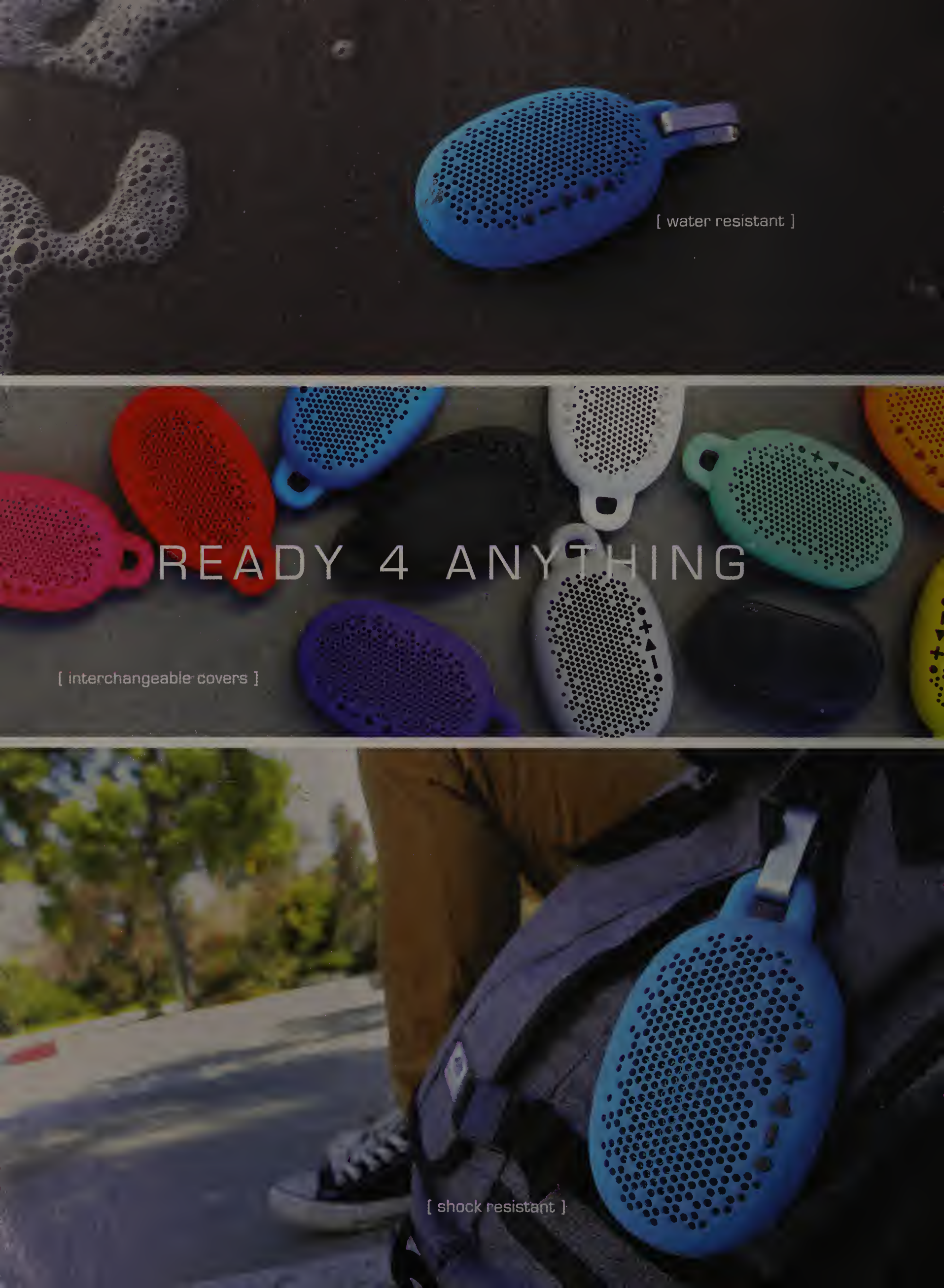
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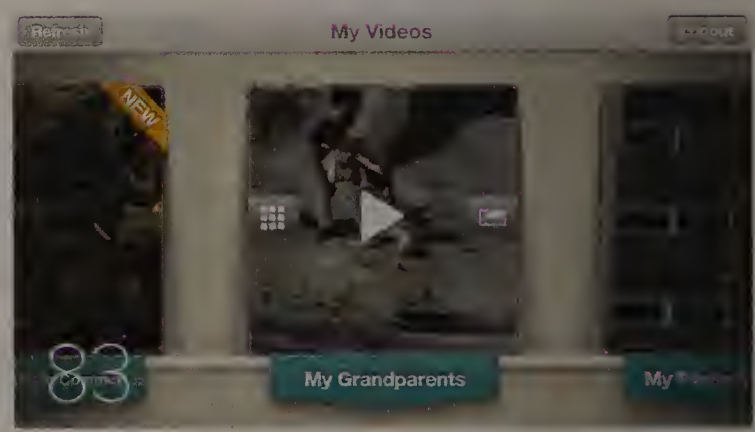


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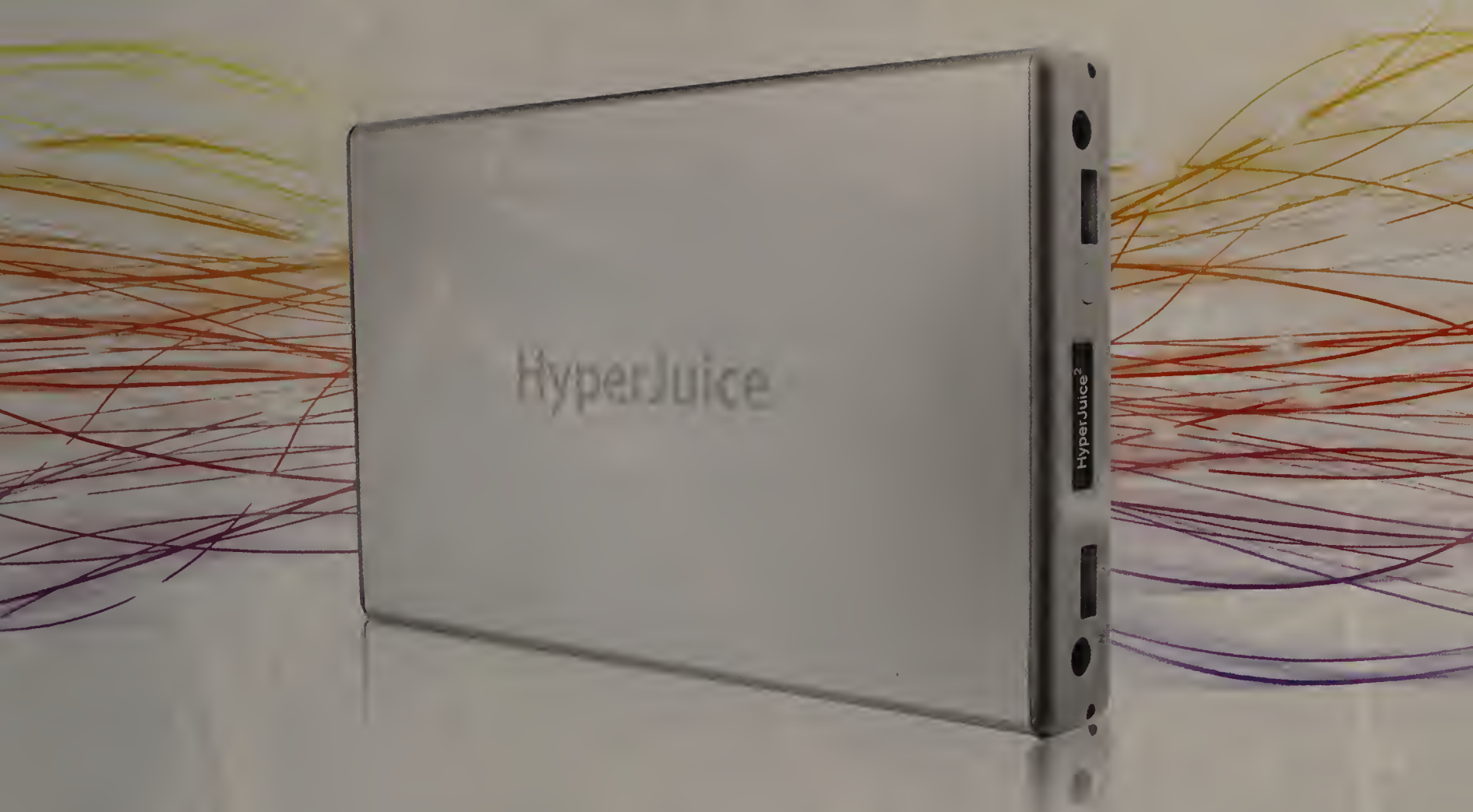


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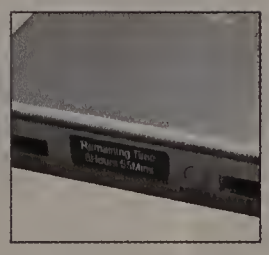

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# Why I Continue to Jailbreak

Jailbreaking has its benefits, but let's hope iOS will evolve to a point where it becomes unnecessary.

Much as I think of myself as an honorable person, I admit that I occasionally break the rules when I believe that doing so harms no one and enhances my life. Take jailbreaking, the process of getting complete access to an intentionally hampered device, for example.

Recently, the first untethered jailbreak for iOS 6 and 6.1—dubbed evasi0n—was released. ("Untethered" means that the jailbreak "sticks" after you restart your device.) And, once again, I weighed the benefits and risks of jailbreaking my phone.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PETER BELANGER

### A Necessary Evil

I'm a veteran jailbreaker—stretching back to the days when the term had yet to be coined and you hacked into the iPhone by way of the Mac's Terminal application. I broke into the phone for one simple reason: to capture screenshots of its interface for a book I was writing. Years later, I jailbroke so that I could project a device's interface for a presentation. In each case, a jailbreak was necessary because Apple didn't provide the features required to accomplish these perfectly reasonable tasks.

In those earlier days, people developing apps for jailbroken iOS devices had some terrific ideas—enabling you to do things such as tether other devices to the phone for free, block unwanted SMS messages, remotely browse the contents of your device, and perform tasks over a 3G network that were normally restricted to Wi-Fi. Jailbreak apps also provided features such as an endless supply of themes, a single drop-down menu for configuring common settings, and notifications. When I found a feature helpful, I adopted it.

But as iOS has evolved, users have had fewer reasons to jailbreak. Screenshots are now as simple as holding down the on/off and home buttons. You can easily project an iOS device's interface. Apple has provided more ways to customize the interface. Tethering is now available, and with apps like PhoneView, you can pull important files off your device. Also, the carriers and Apple have loosened up on what you can and can't do over a cellular network.

> Once I've jailbroken a device, I understand that I should expect no help from Apple if it causes me trouble in the future.

### Jailbreaking for Work and Play

Yet when I saw that evasi0n was in the wild, I didn't hesitate to jailbreak my iPhone. Why? Again, to gain features that make my device more useful—and specifically, to add a couple of forbidden apps.

The first is Ryan Petrich's $4 DisplayOut. I had once used it to project a device's interface when Apple didn't provide that functionality. Although I no longer need it for that purpose, it offers a feature that's crucial when I'm giving an iOS-based presentation: the ability to display finger taps. The other app is something that I use for play, UnrestrictPremium2. iOS devices can project most of their video over AirPlay or a wired video connection. Unrestrict-Premium2 changes that *most* to *nearly all*. Specifically, certain video-streaming apps such as those from satellite services and premium cable channels are perfectly happy to let you watch their content on your iOS device, but you can't project that content over AirPlay or via a cable attached to your TV. This app is designed to get around those restrictions. It doesn't always work, as media conglomerates routinely update their apps to lock down content. But when it does, it's wonderful.

### Jailbreaks for All?

As I've described, jailbreaking has benefits for me. But it's not for everyone. Apple warns that jailbreaking your iOS device may lead to security vulnerabilities, instability, shortened battery life, unreliable voice and data, disruption of services, and an inability to apply future software updates. It may also result in Apple denying service for your device. And, in fact, after I'd used evasi0n to jailbreak iOS 6.1, Apple released an iOS update that prevented evasi0n from working at all. Once I've jailbroken a device, I understand that I should expect no help from Apple if it causes me trouble in the future. With choice comes responsibility.

You should also be aware that the Librarian of Congress has deemed that, while it's legal to jailbreak a phone, doing the same thing to a tablet is a different matter. For reasons best known to those who create such arbitrary distinctions, tablets are to be treated differently. So while the operation I describe works with all iOS devices, you risk incurring the wrath of the law if you undertake to jailbreak an iPad.

That said, my most fervent hope is that iOS (and media license agreements) will evolve to the point where I find jailbreaking entirely unnecessary. Until then, however, I'm a jailbreaker.

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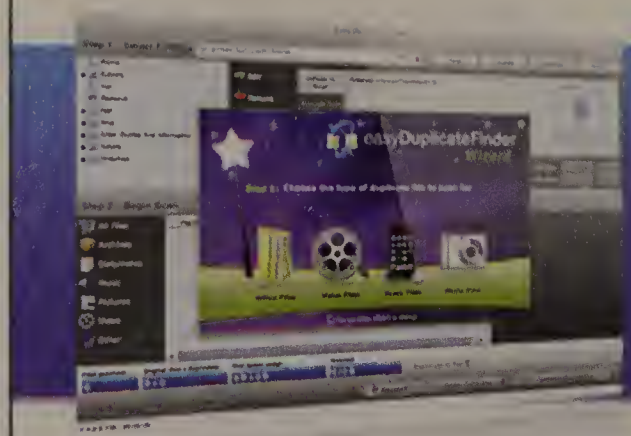

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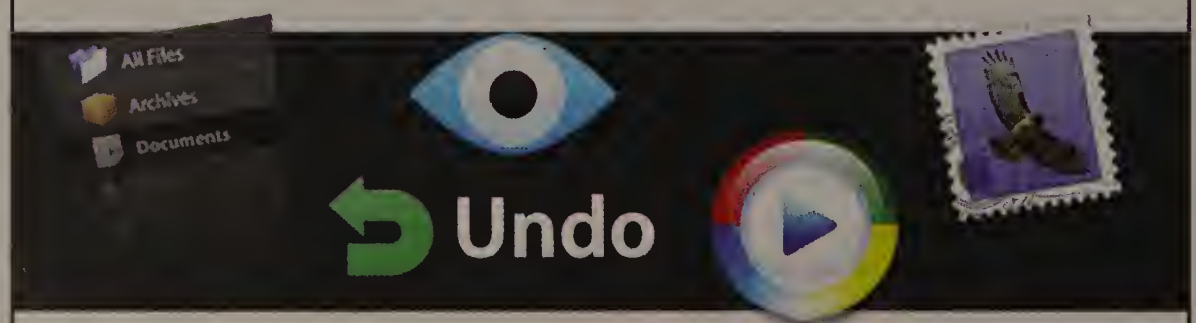


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# Time to Troubleshoot

Having packed this month's *Macworld* with an abundance of iPhone and iPad tips and Mac troubleshooting advice, we also turned to our readers for their suggestions and stories. In addition, we learned that our editorial director isn't the only one who likes writing on his iPad.

## WRITING ON THE iPAD

When I read your editorial [*From the Editor's Desk*, March] about writing on the iPad, it crystallized why I bought the iPad in the first place. The article is correct to point out that when you write on an iPad, you are not distracted by pop-up screens that can take your attention away from what you want to type. Despite the occasional fat-finger syndrome (pressing the adjacent key), the iPad does everything you expect in a word processor. It lets you write!

*Khanh, via email*

"Tapping letter after letter on the iPad's on-screen keyboard"? Can that really be? I'm a fast typist, too. But I pop my iPad into my Zagg portfolio with its near full-size keyboard, and off I go! Or I'm typing away at full speed on my iPad with its colorful and durable Smart Case–like cover. It's why I didn't need to buy a laptop.

*Linda Pletka, via email*

## CORRECTION

On page 38 of the April issue, the symbolic-link instructions should have said: "If you have a file named 'testfile.txt' in your Documents folder, and you want to put a symlink to that file on your desktop and name it 'testsymlink.txt', you would type `ln -s ~/Documents/testfile.txt ~/Desktop/testsymlink.txt` in Terminal and press <Return>."

## SPEEDING UP YOUR MAC

Regarding "What to Do When Your Computer Is Too Slow" (go.macworld.com/slowmac): Close the applications you aren't using! My boss drives me nuts with this.

*bdkennedy1, via Macworld.com*

Go to pingtest.net and make sure you don't have any packet loss, which can make it seem as though you have a slow connection. Even a little packet loss can cause tons of issues, and it's often a problem with your modem or ISP.

*soulatrium, via Macworld.com*

The number one offender on older Macs is Safari, and on recent systems its sibling Web Content process. They gobble up RAM like crazy, which causes OS X to start writing to and reading from the hard drive. Even systems with 4GB of RAM act slower once either Safari component consumes over 1GB of RAM. Look in Activity Monitor, force-quit Safari or Web Content, and all memory is released and things are back to their speedy selves.

*icerabbit, via Macworld.com*

## iPHONE AND iPAD TIPS

Readers tweet about their favorite shortcuts.

**@Macgyyver:** Three-finger tap to zoom (small iPhone screen, old eyes).

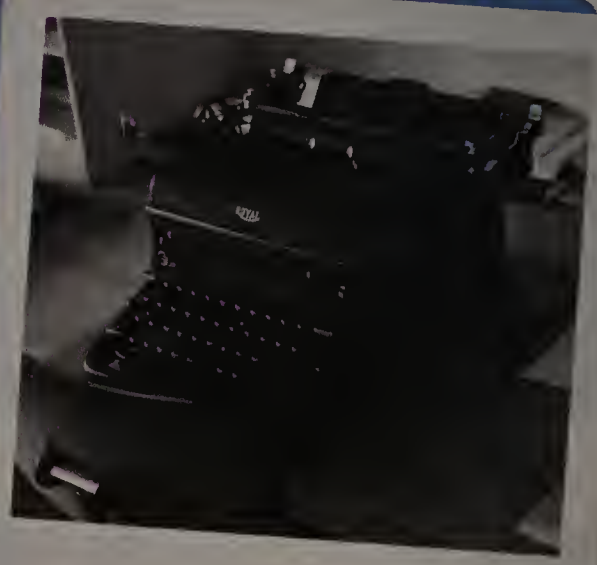
**@Model3volution:** If you're in airplane mode, you can still connect to Wi-Fi!

**@bahaeddin:** To return to the top of the iPhone screen, no matter where you are, tap the status bar.

## THROUGH THE LENS: LOYAL TO ROYALS

In response to the March editorial on iPad typing, reader John Tranter sent this: "I thought Jason Snell might like this photo, which I took in 1985, of poet John Ashbery's Royal typewriter. He once said, 'I'm always loyal to Royals.'"

*Have a great Apple-centric photo? Send it to letters@macworld.com, and we may feature it in a future issue.*



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Enter the exciting world of live television production with the new ATEM Television Studio! Simply plug in up to 8 cameras with HDMI or SDI connections and ATEM will re-sync the video and allow transitions, effects, graphics, animations, chroma keying, all completely live, and at the push of a button! Unlike editing software, live production is the most exciting, lowest cost, and fastest way to generate professional programs. You can even broadcast live to your audience and over the internet!

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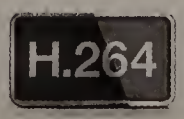
ATEM Television Studio operates as a professional M/E style switcher, so you can take your skills into any broadcast TV station! You get the most creative solution for live switching, with cut, mix, wipe, dip and more! You can even load graphics directly from Adobe Photoshop into the 2 built in media players for live keying!

**Incredible Features**

Only ATEM includes upstream chroma key for green and blue screen shooting. You also get pattern, shaped and linear keying, 2 downstream keyers, 2 built in media players and more! The built in multi view allows all cameras, preview and program to be viewed on a single SDI or HDMI monitor or television, so ATEM is perfect for portable location use! Now you can cover any live event, anywhere!




**More Connections and H.264**

ATEM Television Studio includes loads of SDI and HDMI connections for professional SDI cameras or HDMI consumer cameras! All inputs feature re-sync so you can plug in anything! You also get SDI and HDMI outputs, plus built in H.264 encoding for generating files for the internet, iPhone, iPad and more! Imagine live production direct to H.264 QuickTime files for instant viewing!

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# Upgrades Make Retina MacBook Pro a Better Bargain Than Its Predecessor

BY JAMES GALBRAITH

**Review**

RATING
★★★★½

13-inch Retina MacBook Pro/2.5GHz Core i5
PRICE
$1499

13-inch Retina MacBook Pro/2.6GHz Core i5
PRICE
$1699

15-inch Retina MacBook Pro/2.4GHz Core i7
PRICE
$2199

15-inch Retina MacBook Pro/2.7GHz Core i7
PRICE
$2799

COMPANY
Apple

URL
apple.com

On the outside, the 2013 Retina MacBook Pros look identical to the 2012 models. All of them come with two USB 3.0 ports, two Thunderbolt ports, a MagSafe 2 power connector, a headphone jack, and an SDXD card slot. RAM isn't user-upgradable, but the standard 8GB of memory is enough for most users. If you need more than that, your only Retina MacBook Pro option is the 15-inch model which you can get with 16GB of RAM.

The 13-inch models feature LED backlit screens with a resolution of 2560 by 1600 pixels and a pixel density of 227 pixels per square inch—four times higher than that of MacBook Pros with standard screens. The 13-inch Retina MacBook Pro is just 0.75 inch thick and weighs 3.57 pounds. The non-Retina 13-inch MacBook Pro is 0.95 inch thick and weighs 4.5 pounds.

The 13-inch base model's specs haven't changed, but its price has dropped from $1699 to $1499. It has a 2.5GHz dual-core Core i5 processor with Intel's Turbo Boost technology, which allows the CPU to reach speeds of up to 3.1GHz for short periods of high demand. The Core i5 CPUs in the 13-inch MacBook Pros don't support Hyper-Threading, which lets applications access two virtual cores for each physical processor. The base model has 8GB of 1600MHz memory, 128GB of speedy flash storage, and integrated Intel HD Graphics 4000.

## The Latest Lineup

At $1699, the new high-end 13-inch Retina MacBook Pro costs $300 less than its predecessor, even though it comes with a slightly faster 2.6GHz Core i5, versus the 2.5GHz Core i5 in the previous model. Like the $1499 model, it comes with 8GB of 1600MHz memory (not upgradable) and integrated HD Graphics 4000. The $1699 model includes 256GB of flash storage, twice the capacity of the $1499 13-inch Retina MacBook Pro.

The new 15-inch Retina MacBook Pros have 2880 by 1800 resolution, and a pixel density of 220 ppi. The 15-inch Retina is 0.04 inch thinner than the 13-inch Retina model, and weighs in at 4.46 pounds.

The new 15-inch models cost the same as their predecessors ($2199 and $2799), but the base model has a faster, 2.4GHz Core i7 quad-core processor and supports both Hyper-Threading and Turbo Boost. It has 8GB of 1600MHz memory (upgradable to 16GB for $200, at the point of purchase) and 256GB of flash storage, plus Intel's integrated HD Graphics 4000 and Nvidia's discrete GeForce GT 650M with 1GB of GDDR5 memory. The high-end 15-inch Retina MacBook Pro has a faster 2.7GHz Core i7 quad-core CPU, 16GB of 1600MHz memory, 500GB of flash storage and dual integrated/discrete graphics.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF APPLE

### All About Performance

The new 13-inch 2.6GHz Retina MacBook Pro earned a Speedmark 8 benchmark score of 190, about 3 percent better than the 13-inch base model with its 2.5GHz Core i5 processor. Given the number of shared specifications, it's not surprising that most test results were very close.

The high-end 13-inch 2.6GHz Core i5 Retina MacBook Pro's Speedmark 8 score was 24 percent higher than the high-end 13-inch 2.9GHz Core i7 standard MacBook Pro's, due almost entirely to the Retina MacBook Pro's faster flash storage. The 13-inch Retina MacBook Pro was faster in seven measures, including a file duplication test that the non-Retina MacBook Pro, with its standard 5400-rpm hard drive, took five times longer to complete. The standard MacBook Pro, with its discrete graphics and speedier Core i7 processor, was faster in seven tests, including MathematicaMark 8, Portal 2, and Cinebench's OpenGL and CPU.

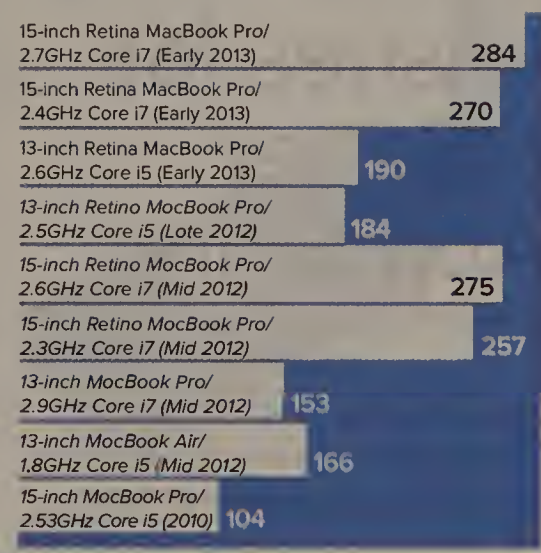
Despite having twice as much RAM and a slightly faster processor, the new high-end 15-inch Retina MacBook Pro was just 3 percent faster than the previous high-end 15-inch model that had the same graphics and flash storage. The new high-end model was 5 percent faster overall than the new base 15-inch Retina model. Matching the new low-end 15-inch Retina MacBook Pro against the new high-end 13-inch Retina MacBook Pro, we found that the 15-inch model was 47 percent faster overall. In both Portal 2 and Cinebench's OpenGL tests, the discrete graphics in the 15-inch model displayed more than twice as many frames per second as the 13-inch model's integrated Intel HD Graphics 4000.

### Bottom Line

The new Retina MacBook Pros represent a subtle refresh to the line of beautiful, ultra-high-resolution portables that Apple introduced last year. The price reductions for the 13-inch models make them a better bargain than before, while the 16GB of RAM in the high-end 15-inch MacBook Pro might help take the sting out of its $2799 price tag.

## Macworld Lab Test

Benchmarks: Speedmark 8




All results are scores. Higher scores are better. Best result in bold. Reference models in italics.—Macworld Lab testing by James Galbraith, Albert Filice, and Keán Bartelman.

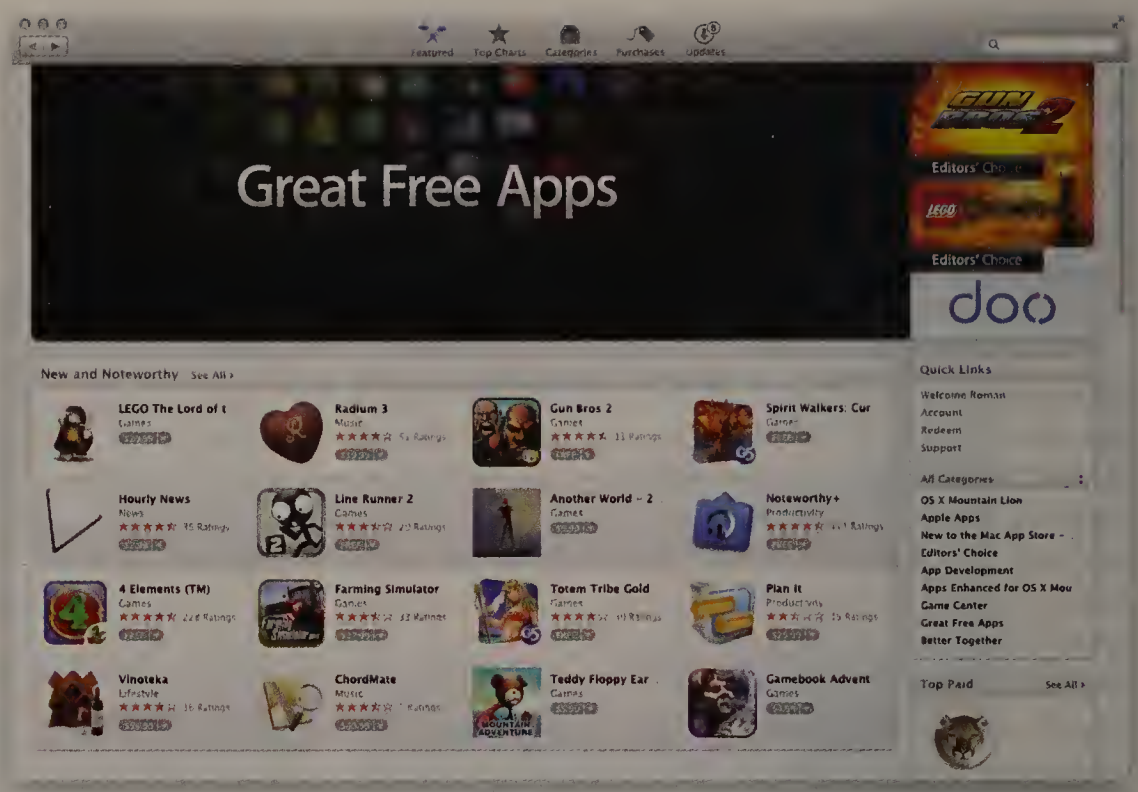
# Macs: Current Lineup

| PRODUCT | SPECS | RATING | PRICE | DISPLAY | SPEEDMARK 8[1] | MORE INFO |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **DESKTOP** | | | | | | |
| iMac | Intel Core i5/2.7GHz (quad-core) | ♦♦♦½ | $1299 | 21.5 inches | 194 | go.macworld.com/imac212712 |
| | Intel Core i5/2.9GHz (quad-core) | ♦♦♦½ | $1499 | 21.5 inches | 204 | go.macworld.com/imac212912 |
| | Intel Core i5/2.9GHz (quad-core) | ♦♦♦♦ | $1799 | 27 inches | 238 | go.macworld.com/imac272912 |
| | Intel Core i5/3.2GHz (quad-core) | ♦♦♦½ | $1999 | 27 inches | 224 | go.macworld.com/imac273212 |
| Mac Mini | Intel Core i5/2.5GHz (dual-core) | ♦♦♦♦ | $599 | Not included | 131 | go.macworld.com/mini2512 |
| | Intel Core i7/2.3GHz (quad-core) | ♦♦♦♦ | $799 | Not included | 164 | go.macworld.com/mini2312 |
| Mac Pro | Intel Xeon/3.2GHz (quad-core) | ♦♦♦½ | $2499 | Not included | 200 | go.macworld.com/macpro3212 |
| | Intel Xeon/2.4GHz (12-core) | ♦♦♦½ | $3799 | Not included | 215 | go.macworld.com/macpro2412 |
| **PORTABLE** | | | | | | |
| MacBook Air | Intel Core i5/1.7GHz, 64GB | ♦♦♦♦½ | $999 | 11 inches | 151 | go.macworld.com/air641112 |
| | Intel Core i5/1.7GHz, 128GB | ♦♦♦♦♦ | $1099 | 11 inches | 151 | go.macworld.com/air1281112 |
| | Intel Core i5/1.8GHz,128GB | ♦♦♦♦½ | $1199 | 13 inches | 166 | go.macworld.com/air1281312 |
| | Intel Core i5/1.8GHz, 256GB | ♦♦♦♦½ | $1499 | 13 inches | 166 | go.macworld.com/air2561312 |
| MacBook Pro | Intel Core i5/2.5GHz (dual-core) | ♦♦♦½ | $1199 | 13 inches | 121 | go.macworld.com/macbook132512 |
| | Intel Core i7/2.9GHz (dual-core) | ♦♦♦♦ | $1499 | 13 inches | 153 | go.macworld.com/macbook132912 |
| | Intel Core i7/2.3GHz (quad-core) | ♦♦♦♦ | $1799 | 15 inches | 161 | go.macworld.com/macbook152312 |
| | Intel Core i7/2.6GHz (quad-core) | ♦♦♦♦ | $2199 | 15 inches | 189 | go.macworld.com/macbook152612 |
| | Intel Core i5/2.5GHz (dual-core) 128GB | ♦♦♦♦½ | $1499 | 13-inch Retina | 184 | go.macworld.com/macbookret13128 |
| | Intel Core i5/2.6GHz (dual-core) 256GB | ♦♦♦♦½ | $1699 | 13-inch Retina | 190 | go.macworld.com/macbookret132613 |
| | Intel Core i7/2.4GHz (quad-core) | ♦♦♦♦½ | $2199 | 15-inch Retina | 270 | go.macworld.com/macbookret152413 |
| | Intel Core i7/2.7GHz (quad-core) | ♦♦♦♦½ | $2799 | 15-inch Retina | 284 | go.macworld.com/macbookret152713 |

[1]Speedmark 8 is Macworld Lab's standard test tool for benchmarking systems running Mac OS X 10.8 (Mountain Lion). For more information, see go.macworld.com/speedmark8

# Three Wishes for a Better App Store

BY MARCO TABINI




I love the App Store. But almost five years after its launch, as the iOS and Mac App Stores approach 1 million apps combined, buying apps isn't as convenient as it once was. Here are three ways Apple could improve its App Stores.

## Better Clients

Despite a major face-lift coinciding with the launch of iOS 6, the client apps for accessing the App Store on iOS devices and Macs are getting a little long in the tooth. On my third-generation iPad, for example, the App Store app makes me wait several seconds between the moment I tap its icon and the moment I can start doing anything, and the app sometimes freezes while I wait for a screen to render.

Speed is less of a problem on the Mac, but the lack of a tabbed interface on the desktop version of the App Store app makes comparison-shopping among multiple products unnecessarily difficult.

## Better Search

Speed and UI issues would be less problematic if getting to the right app were easy, but Apple's search functionality works well only when you already know exactly what you're looking for—and it's often tripped up by search queries that aren't limited to a specific keyword.

Searching for "password," for instance, yields an array of credential-management apps, but searching for "apps for managing my passwords" returns no results. Given the sophistication that Web search has attained in recent years, the ability to understand a query written in simple English seems like a must-have feature.

But things get even weirder: Recently I was looking for Black Pixel's excellent Kaleidoscope app, but I couldn't remember its name offhand, so I searched for it using the query "diffs"—a fairly common term that developers use for a data format that describes how two documents differ. The App Store didn't return any results until I changed my query to "diff," at which point Kaleidoscope became the first result. In fairness, the result screen included a 'Did you mean...' note that sent me in the right direction—but Google has no trouble identifying a plural word and directing me to pages that contain its singular form.

## Better Curation

Given the sheer volume of apps on the App Stores, Apple's role in curating them is becoming increasingly important. By and large, the company promotes all apps on an even field. In any given week, the latest release from a giant like Electronic Arts may share the Editors' Choice spot with an app written by a talented but less renowned team of independent developers.

> Putting a human face on its editorial process for reviews and weekly picks would make the App Store more relevant to everyone who uses it.

**No Help Navigating** A tabbed interface would seem quite natural on OS X, but the desktop version of the App Store app lacks one.

Unfortunately, users can't tell who the mysterious "editors" of the App Store are, or how and why they make their weekly picks. Putting a human face on its editorial process would make the store more relevant to everyone who uses it.

Likewise the App Store might benefit from more social interaction. I value the app recommendations and ideas that I get from my friends and colleagues. But short of asking them for advice and opinions, I have no easy way to learn about hidden gems they may have found.

Though Apple's previous effort in this area didn't pan out, the company should keep trying. After all, digging through social networks like Facebook and Twitter for app recommendations is no picnic.

## Here's to a Million More

The App Store has given new life to the independent developer community and has allowed millions of people to enjoy high-quality software at modest prices. No doubt Apple is well aware that enhancing these three areas—client software, search, and curation—would go a long way toward making the next million apps more accessible than ever.

# BearExtender Mini Connects Your Mac to Faraway Wi-Fi Hotspots

**BY LEX FRIEDMAN**

**Review**
RATING
PRICE
$50
COMPANY
BearExtender
URL
bearextender.com

The $50 BearExtender Mini aims to let you use your Mac farther away from a wireless base station. The Mini can pick up Wi-Fi signals from two to four times farther away than the AirPort card built into your Mac can, the maker says.

The Mini doesn't plug directly into your Mac's USB port. Instead, the dongle connects via an included Mini-USB cable. The unit is only a bit larger than a house key.

The Mini is an 802.11n Wi-Fi adapter, and works solely with the 2.4GHz band. Using the Mini with a Mac requires special drivers. The device replaces your built-in wireless card, so you must disable Wi-Fi on your Mac before using the Mini.

In my testing, the Mini did a nice job of extending my MacBook Pro's wireless range. From my own home, I connected to the unsecured wireless network of a neighbor two houses down, though I can't do so using the Mac's built-in card. I found that I could stay connected to my own home's Wi-Fi network at full or near-full strength in every room on every floor, too. Without the device, my connection drops to one or two bars in some indoor spots.

In my tests, I saw download speeds of about 60 mbps using my built-in AirPort card, and about 44 mbps using the Mini. Upload speeds (7 mbps during my tests) exhibited no significant differences.

Anyone who often encounters spotty Wi-Fi could benefit from this device.

**Mini but Mighty** The tiny BearExtender Mini lets you connect to a weak or distant network.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# Hot Stuff

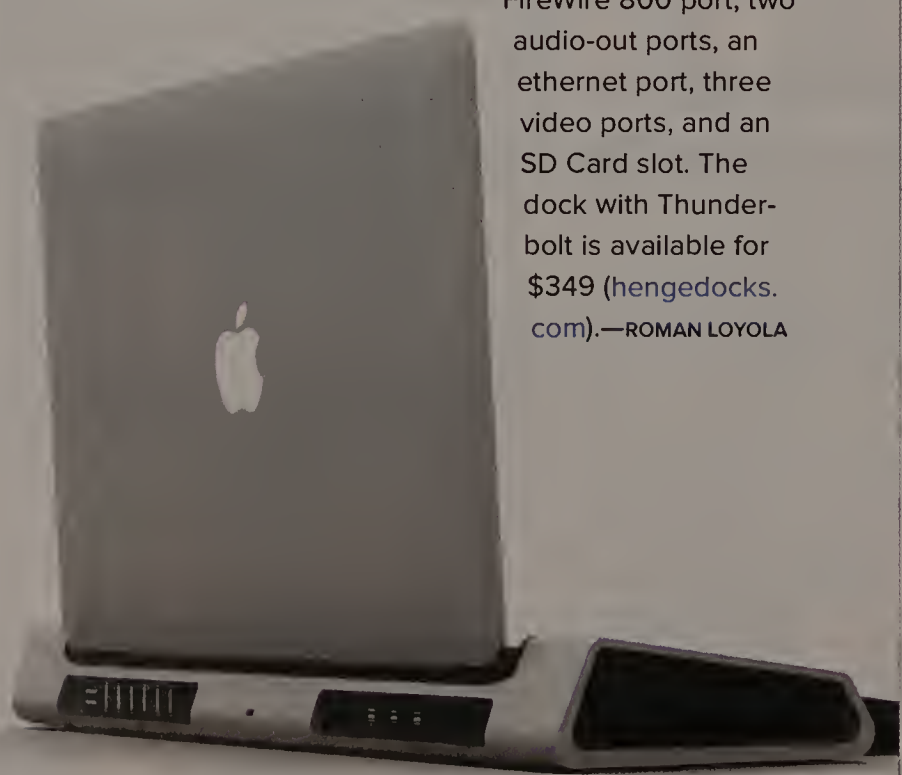
What We're Raving About This Month

## Tesseract Intelligent Mobile Device Station

Inspired by the Tesseract artifact seen in *The Avengers*, Esoterism's $79 Tesseract provides an elegant way to store devices. The two aluminum cubes come with three slots: The largest slot accommodates a MacBook Pro; the medium-size one, a MacBook Air; and the smallest one, an iPad or iPad mini. Position the cubes on their proper sides, and slide your MacBook or iPad into the two slots. The Tesseract holds your MacBook or iPad upright, so you can neatly place it out of the way when you're working with another device. The cubes look pretty sleek, too (esoterism.com).—LEAH YAMSHON

## Henge Horizontal Dock

For longtime Mac users, Henge Docks' Horizontal Dock may conjure up memories of the beloved PowerBook Duo and, more specifically, the Duo Dock. Though the $249 Horizontal Dock looks nothing like the Duo Dock, it serves a similar purpose, as a docking station for your laptop. When you pop in your MacBook, you increase the number of available ports: You get six USB 3.0 ports, a FireWire 800 port, two audio-out ports, an ethernet port, three video ports, and an SD Card slot. The dock with Thunderbolt is available for $349 (hengedocks.com).—ROMAN LOYOLA



## TextWrangler 4.5

Improvements in the new version of Bare Bones Software's free text editor include Retina display support, cosmetic refinements, and better feature organization. You also get a slimmer toolbar and an overhauled sidebar whose aesthetics are similar to the rest of Mountain Lion. When you save a document, TextWrangler automatically creates a new version marker behind the scenes. You can view previous saved versions of a document and compare them to the current one (barebones.com).—LEX FRIEDMAN

## PlugBug World

An adapter for the MacBook power adapter, the $45 PlugBug World lets you charge a MacBook and an iOS device from a single outlet simultaneously. It includes five adapters that enable you to use the device to power your electronics in Australia, China, continental Europe, North America, and the United Kingdom (twelvesouth.com).—JOEL MATHIS

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# Mac Gems

Discover Great, Low-Cost Mac Products **Edited by Dan Frakes**

UTILITY

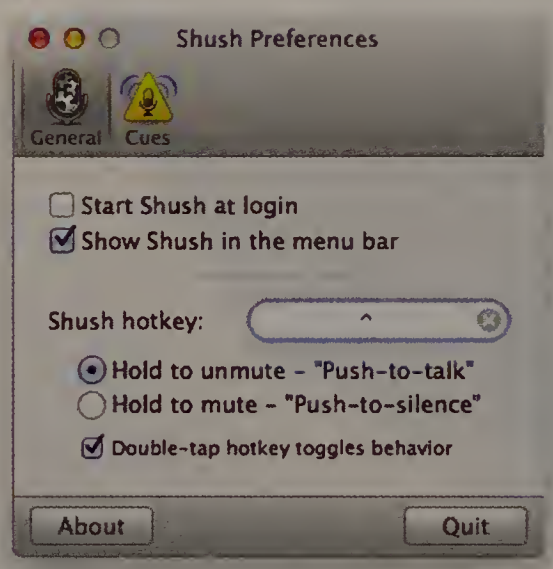
## Shush 1.1

♦♦♦♦; $3; Mizage; go.macworld.com/shush

One problem with using lots of different apps for chats and recordings is that each program has a different way to mute the microphone. But Shush lets you mute and unmute your mic via a systemwide hotkey that works the same way no matter which app or service you're using.

By default, Shush mutes your microphone unless you press and hold your hotkey(s). In other words, Shush gives you a push-to-talk microphone. But you can alter this behavior to make your mic generally live; you hold down your keyboard shortcut only to mute the mic. One useful option lets you quickly double-press your shortcut to toggle mute, without your having to hold down any keys.

If you like, Shush can display an icon in the menu bar that shows the current mic status: When your microphone is muted, you'll see a little X graphic; when it's unmuted, you'll see a little sound-wave graphic. Another option provides simple audio cues when you mute or unmute.




I tested Shush with a wide variety of apps and services, including FaceTime, iChat/Messages, Skype, GarageBand, and even Google Hangouts in Safari and Chrome. In each instance, Shush worked as promised, letting me mute my USB microphone or webcam, or my Bluetooth headset, with just a press of my shortcut. The developer says that Shush should work with any audio input—it mutes whichever audio source is selected as the current input device in the Sound pane of System Preferences. As long as an app uses OS X's standard audio APIs, Shush should be able to mute it.

I didn't expect to like Shush as much as I do. It's a handy utility that I keep running whenever I'm using my Mac.—DAN FRAKES

EMAIL CLIENT

## Inky

♦♦♦♦; free; Arcode; inky.com

A cleverly designed alternative to Apple's Mail, Arcode's Inky email client is well suited to the way most people use email.

On startup, Inky prompts you to set up an account for Arcode's cloud-based service. You can then add details for email accounts you own: IMAP, POP, or webmail. In my tests, with only an email address and password for each, Inky set up two email accounts in seconds, keeping me informed as it determined how to configure itself.

On the privacy front, Inky lets your computer connect to your email provider(s) and store messages—Inky doesn't store or transmit your mail through the Arcode servers. It does hold your email accounts' details and passwords, but keeps them encrypted, with the only key being your Inky account password. As a result, none of Arcode's employees could ever gain access to your email, the company says.

Inky's clean, logical interface provides a lot of power with minimal clutter. Icons on the left let you view different accounts or open the program's settings. Proceeding rightward, you'll see your message list, then a preview of the selected message or conversation.

Inky has no calendar, to-do lists, or other auxiliary features, so it's not ideal for business use. But its sharp design, smart features, and overall cheerfulness won me over. Mac email users should give this fun, full-featured, and free program a try.—NATHAN ALDERMAN

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EMAIL CLIENT

# Email Pro for Gmail

♦♦♦♦; $2; iLife Technology; go.macworld.com/ilife

The only clunky thing about Email Pro for Gmail 2.1 is its name. This slender app offers a simple way to get to your Gmail messages directly from your desktop.

Essentially a site-specific browser, Email Pro leans on the mobile version of Gmail's website for its main interface, but you have the option to use Gmail's desktop layout instead.

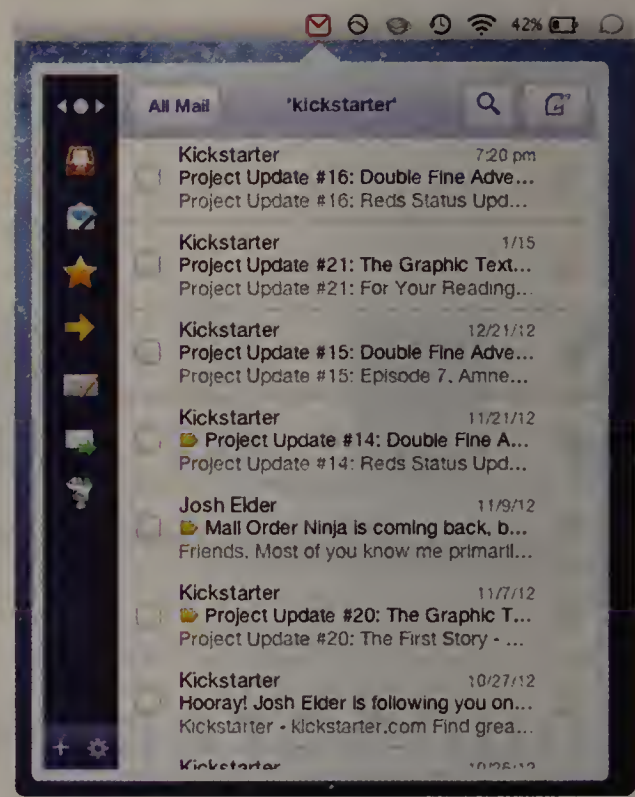
Though this Web-view approach can occasionally make retrieving mail slow, it also has several distinct advantages. Since you're using Gmail directly, rather than importing its messages into an app, you don't have to create an application-specific password, even if you have heightened your Gmail security settings. And you can start working with your mail instantly, rather than waiting for a POP or IMAP client to download hundreds or thousands of messages.

You can use Email Pro in a standard window, as a convenient popover (which you access by clicking a systemwide menu-bar item), or as an app to replace your desktop background and sit behind other open windows. I liked the discreet functionality of the popover, but you may prefer the desktop option if you can't bear to be separated from email for even an instant.

The icons that run down the left-hand toolbar on Email Pro's friendly, colorful interface may not be immediately comprehensible, but explanatory help tags appear when you hover the pointer over interface elements. The search works fine on the desktop and in popup mode.

Using those icons, you can quickly navigate to the different Gmail-standard views of your mail, including drafts, important mail, and sent mail. Other buttons open the simple, well-crafted Preference window, with its iOS-style toggle switches, or spawn a new window, should you require multiple views of your mailboxes. An option in Email Pro's preferences allows you to auto-hide the left-hand sidebar when you aren't using it.

Email Pro isn't flawless. Though its main features worked fine, I couldn't get the mobile Gmail's sketching feature to work with it—though this is admittedly not a dealbreaker. And the program's preference window curiously misspells *desktop*.




Still, thanks to its solid interface and useful display-as-desktop feature, Email Pro is worth a serious look if you're a Gmail user.—NATHAN ALDERMAN

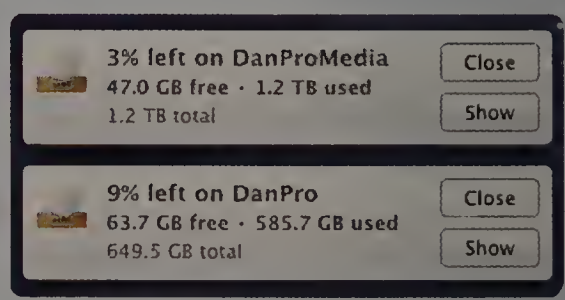
## Promising Prospect: **Notifi 1.0**

$2; Ilia; go.macworld.com/notifi

A small app that does nothing on its own, Notifi watches your Mac for particular events and then uses Notification Center to alert you to those events.

In Notifi's preferences window, you choose types of events you want to be notified of. The Devices Added/Removed option, for example, will notify you whenever a volume is mounted (with an alert that includes information on the size of the drive and how much of its space is filled) or unmounted (with a notification of when the drive is safe to unplug).

The Disk Space settings allow you to set free-space thresholds for up to four volumes. When a volume's free space dips below its threshold, Notifi warns you. Unfortunately, Notifi is overzealous in this respect: If you dismiss a low-drive-space warning, it quickly reappears. To stop the alert from appearing, you must either free up drive space or disable the Disk Space option for that drive.




By using the app's Files In Folder options, you can configure Notifi to monitor up to four folders for any file or folder activity—creation, modification, or deletion—that occurs within the top level of the chosen folder.

For MacBooks, the Battery settings let you instruct Notifi to alert you when your MacBook's battery level dips below the percentage you choose. And the Time tab offers time-based alerts, including daily, hourly, and periodic notifications.

Despite some issues that make it seem a bit rushed, the initial version of Notifi provides a number of useful features that, when ironed out, will be very handy. I look forward to future updates.—DAN FRAKES

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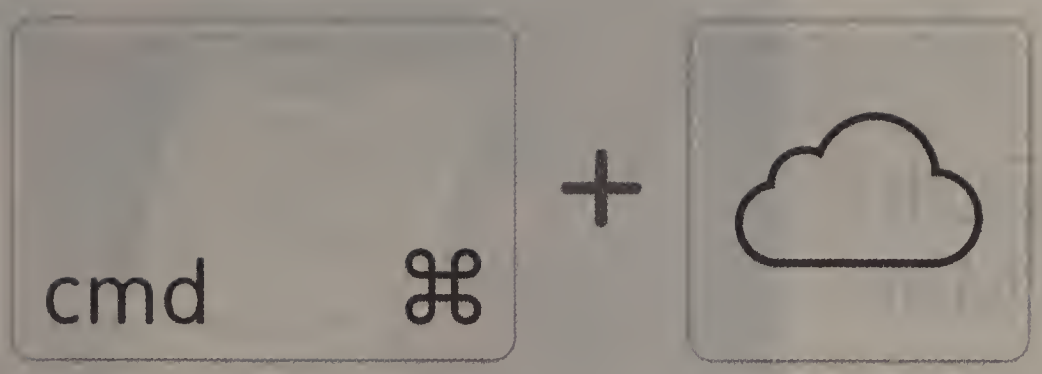


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# How to Build a Better Mail Client

Orchestra's new iPhone app takes on Apple's iOS Mail.

**BY LEX FRIEDMAN**

Orchestra CEO Gentry Underwood is a busy man these days; his company recently launched a new iPhone email app called Mailbox (our review is on page 33), and customer response has been high. But Underwood took time out to speak with *Macworld* about the app, its rollout, and the company's plans for profitability.

Mailbox aims to be a true replacement for Apple's built-in iOS Mail app. Using it, you can swipe on messages in your inbox to archive them, delete them, or "snooze" them—this last feature temporarily hides a message from your inbox but returns it to the forefront after an interval of time you specify. This makes it easier for you to get to Inbox Zero (meaning an inbox that's free of new, unread messages), while also ensuring that the messages you've hidden will pop up later, when you feel that you're ready to act on them.

Orchestra has prepared for an onslaught of users looking for a better way to manage their email. Underwood says that more than 250,000 users have already signed up for Mailbox access through its reservation program (which started on the Web but is now available from within the free app); he warns, however, that access rollout will start slowly. Though you can install the app right away, at first you'll see only your current position in the reservation queue. "We'll monitor the early load, and we expect that we'll be able to increase the number of users exponentially over time," he says. But the primary goal is keeping the system online for early adopters.

Underwood says that the company isn't too worried about Mailbox buckling under the load as customers start using the app. "The fear of the system falling over has been mitigated by [our] having spent a bit of extra time setting up the reservation system," he explains. This system presents you with a code to unlock the app, once your spot in the customer queue is reached.

> Mailbox's goal, Underwood says, is to take the pain out of the user's day-to-day experience of managing email, especially when they're using it as a to-do list.

## Offline Access

Underwood says that even if Mailbox's servers get overloaded, the developers have built in numerous fail-safe mechanisms. "We built a very intelligent offline queue, so if you're on an airplane, or in large portions of San Francisco or New York City where cell service is abysmal, we won't let that degrade your experience. So you can do everything you [can]

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT CARDIN

imagine with your already downloaded email" even when your phone is offline. "As soon as you get access to the server again," Underwood says, "all those changes propagate."

That means you can mark messages as archived or deleted, compose new messages and replies, and snooze selected messages, even if the app is, for whatever reason, unable to connect to the Internet. Underwood explains that this offline architecture works for Airplane mode, and also if the company has trouble with its system and has to take its servers offline temporarily.

### The Business of 'Free'

I've been using Mailbox for about a month, and I'm a big fan. But should customers be worried about the long-term viability of the app, given that it's free? Underwood says no.

"We're really following in the footsteps of companies like Dropbox and Evernote, who have demonstrated their ability to make a good business out of a 'freemium' model: You give people a version of the experience for free, and have a series of premium features that more hard-core users can step up and pay for if they're interested."

Though he wouldn't talk about upcoming premium features, Underwood does offer a peek at where Mailbox is headed. "A native iPad experience is coming," he says. In fact, "our goal is to get this app onto every device that people use email on, which means the desktop and Android, and maybe other mobile devices as well."

Mailbox's main limitation at launch is that it's restricted to Gmail accounts. But that limitation won't last forever, Underwood said. "We architected the system so that we can add other email providers as we grow, relatively pain-free."

### The Acquisition Question

The last company to try to reinvent mobile email was Sparrow, which Google ended up buying. *(Editor's note: As this issue went to press, Dropbox announced that it acquired Mailbox and its team.)*

Buyouts are "always a risk, to be honest," he says. He points to situations that he thinks motivate acquisitions: "A product isn't [growing] at a consistent scale, or isn't likely to grow into a big business." While he acknowledges that Mailbox could face such issues, he says that the company's hope is to build a big and real business out of the product.

And Underwood likes his chances. "One of the big opportunities here is that pretty much everybody uses email, pretty much everybody uses email on their phone, and pretty much everybody who uses email on their phone kind of hates it right now. And if we can address that problem at scale, we can build a real business."

Mailbox's goal, Underwood says, is to take the pain out of the user's day-to-day experience of managing email, especially when they're using it as a to-do list. If Mailbox can "take a little bit of friction out of email-based collaboration, you're greasing the skids for a lot of people."

Alluding to a famous Steve Jobs quote, Underwood says that the appeal of building the Mailbox app was its potential for making a dent in the universe. "I think we have a shot."

**Limited Launch** CEO Gentry Underwood says that while Mailbox is limited to Gmail accounts at launch, the company will add email providers as time goes on.

## Apple Releases 128GB iPad

Apple has released a new iPad that looks a lot like the existing fourth-gen iPad, only with more storage than ever before. The iPad with Retina display now comes in a 128GB version. The Wi-Fi model retails for $799, and the Wi-Fi plus cellular option costs $929.

The 128GB iPad doubles the 64GB iPad's storage—previously, the tablet line's maximum storage space. The prices for the 64GB, 32GB, and 16GB models remain the same as before.

Though Apple is doing its best to help offload file storage to the cloud whenever possible—with iTunes Match and iTunes in the Cloud, for example—apps that support the Retina display are getting larger and larger, making iPad storage space ever more precious. Apple recently said that more than 300,000 iPad-native apps are currently available in the App Store.

With the exception of its increased storage space, the 128GB iPad is identical to previous incarnations of the fourth-generation iPad, first released in late 2012: It employs a 9.7-inch Retina display, an A6X chip, and a FaceTime HD camera, and it comes with iOS 6.1 installed.—LEX FRIEDMAN

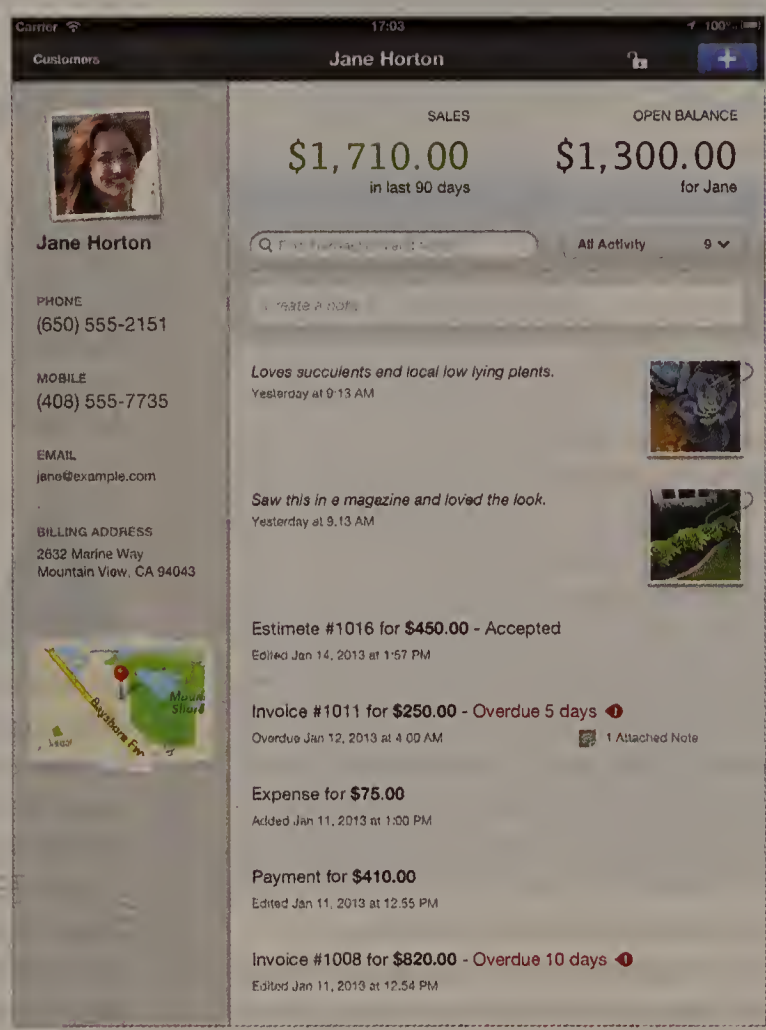
# QuickBooks Online Service Enhanced for iPad Users

New app lets mobile users take advantage of tablet's camera and more.

**BY ROMAN LOYOLA**

A vast majority of Intuit's new customers are using the company's services and software on mobile devices. So Intuit's release of QuickBooks Online for iPad seems like the sensible thing to do.

"Last year, our mobile base grew 300 percent," Will Lynes, Intuit QuickBooks Online Senior Manager, told *Macworld*. "Twenty-five percent of those customers are actually accessing our services on an iPad." Until now, though, those iPad users have had to use QuickBooks Mobile for iPhone. Users switching to the iPad app should have a better tablet experience.




**Tablet Focus** Small-business users can make better use of the iPad to create invoices and manage customer data in the field.

As the name implies, QuickBooks Online for iPad draws from QuickBooks Online, a service Intuit launched in 2004 (Safari support for QuickBooks Online came in 2009). The main benefit of the iPad app is that it can work with the iPad's camera, use features such as notifications and location services, and provide an iPad-native interface.

With the iPad app, when you create invoices and customer notes, or organize expenses, the information is saved to your QuickBooks Online account and automatically synced between devices. You can import customer information from the iPad's Contacts app, or from Gmail, Yahoo, or LinkedIn. You can also add photos to QuickBooks via the iPad app, but those images are not uploaded to your QuickBooks Online account—you can use them only in the iPad app. Available charts and graphs are based on the Mint.com library.

Unfortunately, QuickBooks Online doesn't integrate at all with the Mac version of QuickBooks. But Windows users of QuickBooks can transfer customer, vendor, and transaction information to QuickBooks Online Plus or QuickBooks Online Essentials.

QuickBooks Online for iPad is a free download from the App Store (go.macworld.com/qbipad). You'll need a QuickBooks Online account, which is free to try for 30 days. After that, plans start at $13 per month or $125 per year.

# iOS 6 Updates Add Features, Fix Bugs

**BY DAN MOREN**

Apple has released three updates to its mobile operating system recently, each one adding minor improvements and enhancements to the iOS experience.

iOS 6.1, released in late January, extends LTE networking to 36 new iPhone carriers and 23 new iPad carriers worldwide, letting users of LTE-compatible devices—the iPhone 5, the fourth-generation iPad, and the iPad mini—take advantage of the faster wireless speeds.

Also, iTunes Match users can once again download individual songs to their iOS device. You can now use Siri to buy movie tickets in the U.S. via Fandango as long as you have the Fandango app installed. And within Passbook, you now always have direct access to the App Store's collection of Passbook-enabled apps.

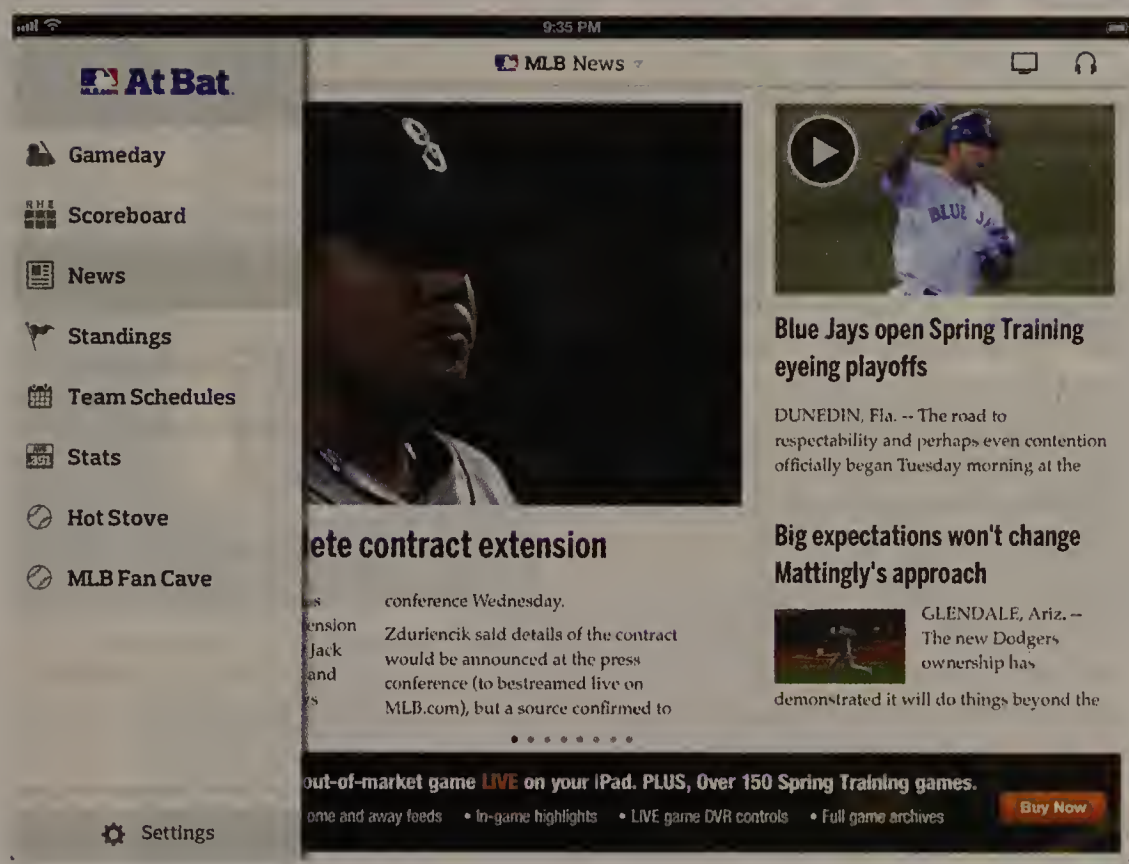
The media playback controls that appear when you double-click the Home button while on the lock screen are now silver and black. And a new button lets you reset the Advertising Identifier, a device identifier that lets advertisers easily target customers. Tapping this button is a bit like clearing your browsing history, but for ads.

iOS 6.1 also included security fixes for WebKit, Wi-Fi, and other services.

iOS 6.1.1, released in mid-February, fixed an issue that could hurt cellular performance and reliability for iPhone 4S users. And iOS 6.1.2, released just a week later, patched a bug related to Exchange calendars that could cause excessive network activity and reduce battery life.

# MLB.com At Bat Ups Its Video Game for 2013

BY PHILIP MICHAELS




Major League Baseball is getting its mobile app—MLB.com At Bat—into shape for the coming season, and video looks to hold a key spot in the lineup.

Video features are nothing new to MLB.com At Bat, of course. The five-year-old app has featured video highlights in previous seasons, and MLB.TV Premium subscribers will once again be able to watch live video streams of games on their smartphones and tablets. But Major League Baseball has redesigned its mobile offering for the 2013 season to better feature video clips and highlights.

"You're going to see video integration that's much more intuitive to the way fans use the app," MLB.com vice president of corporate communications Matthew Gould told me as we talked about the new update to MLB.com At Bat.

Previously, video clips resided in a separate section of the app. Now, if they're relevant to a particular article, they'll appear within the article itself. MLB developers also redesigned team pages to better integrate video. Searching for videos should also be easier; instead of getting just the most recent additions, searches will turn up results from the app's entire video archive.

"You search for *Cal Ripken* or *Tony Gwynn*, and you're going to the entire [video] experience," Gould said.

## Archive of Classic Games

In a particularly cool feature for fans of baseball history, MLB has been adding classic games to its video archive. These are complete games—not just highlights—and they cover a long stretch of baseball history; Gould estimates that the oldest entry in the classic games video library is a World Series game from the 1950s. MLB plans to add more classic games to the app's library as the season progresses.

## Multiplatform Access

Last year's update saw MLB introduce a single app instead of paid and free versions for both smartphones and tablets. That approach will continue in 2013: MLB.com At Bat remains a free download that offers scores and news (go.macworld.com/mlb2013). To get pitch-by-pitch updates, in-game video highlights, pitch tracking, and live audio broadcasts of each game through the World Series, you'll need to make a $20 in-app purchase for the 2013 season. (That's a $5 increase from last year's in-app purchase cost.) Monthly subscriptions are available for $3 each month. MLB.TV Premium subscribers get all the premium At Bat features for free as part of their $130 season-long subscription to MLB's video service.

MLB has made a few changes that will appeal to multiple device owners, however. At Bat subscribers will be able to enjoy multiplatform access to live game audio—basically, you'll have the option of listening to broadcasts on either your mobile device or your Mac or PC. MLB also added universal access for At Bat subscribers, meaning you'll need to make just one in-app purchase to enjoy features on all the devices you own. That's great news for baseball fans who may own an Android phone as well as an iPad.

**Integrated Video** In the 2013 update to the MLB.com At Bat app, articles will feature relevant video clips directly within the story.

The latest version of MLB.com At Bat is available for both iOS and Android. MLB promises a BlackBerry 10 version will be available by the start of the regular season on March 31. There's no word on a version for Windows 8 phones at this time.

A few other additions may catch the eye of At Bat users. MLB added new push notifications for the iPhone, including additional ones for users of the free version of the app; Premium push features will include notifications of video highlights and condensed game reports. Last year, At Bat added sortable stats to its phone versions; that sortability is now available to iPad and Android tablets as well.

And the game isn't over for MLB.com At Bat. Gould says there will be more additions as the season gets under way.

# Audible iOS App Gains iPad Interface, Redesigned Navigation

Amazon's audiobook service, Audible, has overhauled its iOS app in version 2.0, adding a native iPad interface to the previously iPhone-only app.

Version 2.0 of the audiobook-playing app adds other nice touches, such as redesigned navigation intended to make listening on the go easier. Three big buttons now dominate navigation within a book: a 30-second rewind button, in case you lose track of the narrative; a play button; and a bookmark button for finding your way back to your spot in the book.

A new library-filtering option hides from view the books that you've already finished reading. And you can now download up to 3 hours of audiobook content over a cellular phone connection. Also, you now have the option to sign into the Audible app using your Amazon password.

New cloud-based features let you start a book on one device and finish on another. And the Whispersync service lets you switch between reading a book on a Kindle and listening to the book on an iPhone.

**Better Navigation** Three large navigation buttons along the bottom of the app window make it easier to jump to where you want to go.

Audible's iOS app (go.macworld.com/audible) is free and compatible with devices running iOS 5.0 or later. Existing members of the Audible service pay $15 a month; new members pay half that price for their first three months, and also receive one complimentary audiobook title for each of those months.—JOEL MATHIS

# Twitter's Vine Lets You Share Quick, Looping Videos

From the team at Twitter comes a video-focused iPhone app—replete with a social network of its own. If a tweet is 140 characters and a picture's worth 1000 words, a 6-second video of the sort you can create with Vine must be worth 144,000 words or so, by today's exchange rates.

The free app (go.macworld.com/vine) lets you share and view short, looping videos. Twitter says support for platforms beyond iOS is coming soon.

You can log in to Vine with your Twitter account, or create a new profile. To make a video, you tap and hold on the screen; when you release, you make a cut. You can include as many cuts in your video as you can fit in the 6-second window.

Once you're finished, you can share your looping creation via Vine, Twitter, and Facebook if you so choose. You can also, unsurprisingly enough, find other Vine-using friends from your contacts list or your Facebook and Twitter friends.

As you scroll through your Vine timeline, videos start playing as they come into view and then stop automatically as you scroll past. As is de rigueur for any social network these days, you can comment on or "like" videos.—LEX FRIEDMAN

# What's New at the App Store

### Horizon Calendar

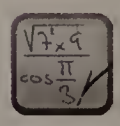
File this under "Why didn't we think of this?" The $2 Horizon iPhone app (go.macworld.com/horizon) combines your calendar and your local weather forecast—letting you know, for example, if a thunderstorm is likely to ruin that picnic you've planned.—JOEL MATHIS

### Zombies & Trains

Zombies & Trains (go.macworld.com/zandt) is a $1 iPhone app that lets you kill zombies with the eponymous trains. Only, because it's a zombie game, you really should pronounce it "*traaaaaaaaains*."—JOEL MATHIS

### Kickstarter

Kickstarter has led the way in the still-young field of DIY indie financing, and now the free Kickstarter iPhone app (go.macworld.com/kick) takes the experience mobile. While you can't create new projects, you can track your proposal's progress, search for projects to fund, and follow projects that you've given money to.—JOEL MATHIS



### MyScript Calculator

The free MyScript Calculator (go.macworld.com/msc) for the iPhone and iPad feels straight out of *Harry Potter*: On your iOS screen, write down a math problem that's stumping you, and the answer magically appears. It works for basic math and even trigonometry.—JOEL MATHIS

### Toy Story: Smash It

Toy Story: Smash It (go.macworld.com/smash), a $1 game for the iPad and iPhone, focuses on the fun parts of the *Toy Story* films—those where you smash things. It's like Jenga, only with a delusional space-commander toy trying to knock down the structures in front of it.—JOEL MATHIS

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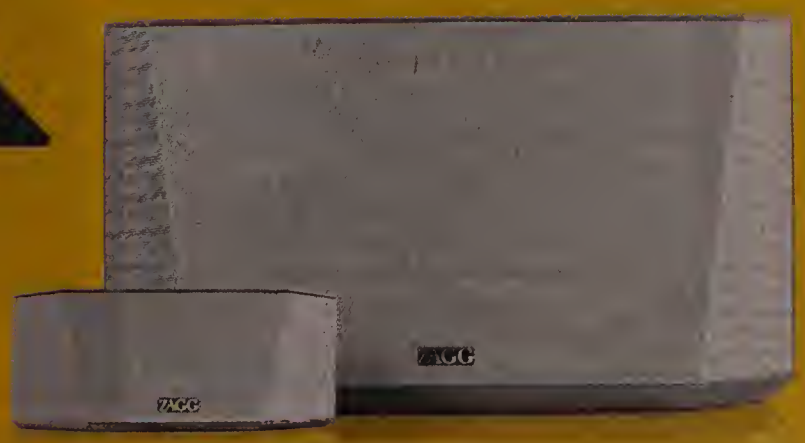


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# App Guide

Software for Your iPhone, iPod Touch, and iPad

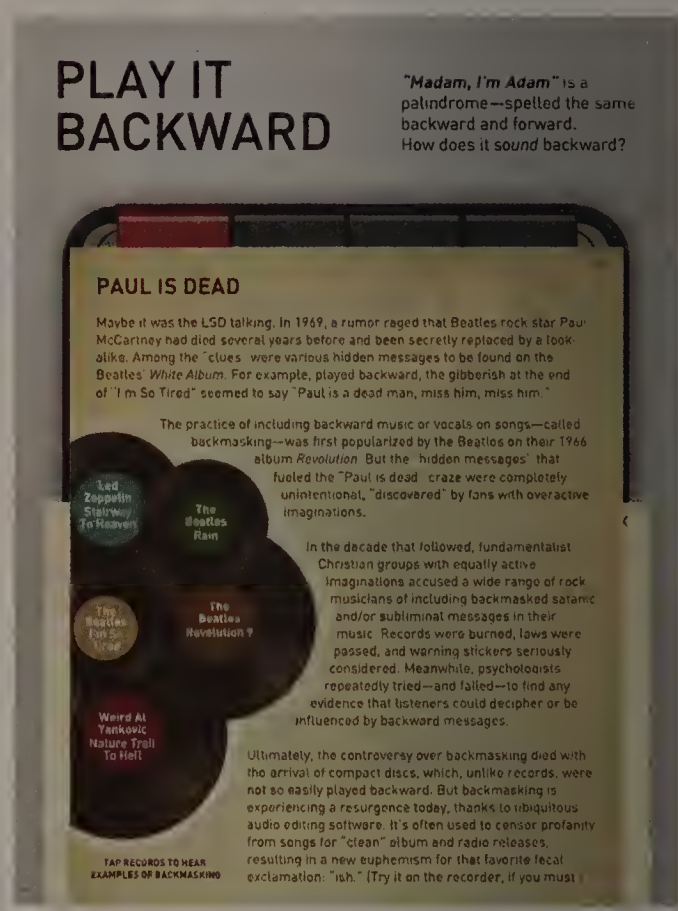
## Sound Uncovered

EDUCATION Just how much does your brain functionality affect what you hear? You'll discover answers to such questions in Sound Uncovered, an iPad app from the Exploratorium, a hands-on science museum in San Francisco.

This gorgeous app features articles, videos, sounds (of course), and interactive experiments to help users of all ages engage with sound, science, and how the two intersect. It's easy to navigate, and includes lots of high-res photography and interactive images. At launch, Sound Uncovered comes with 12 chapters, but the Exploratorium plans to add more in the future. The first chapter, for example, features a circular keyboard that you can play with your finger. Another chapter has an audio recorder that lets you record your voice and play it backward or forward. You can click a link for more information on what's going on in each experiment, video, or article.

The material is easy to read and gives you a good general overview, but for in-depth information you'll probably want to go online and do your own research. And that's exactly what the Exploratorium wants—to pique your interest just enough to spur you into action.—SARAH JACOBSSON PUREWAL

iPhone/iPad | ♦♦♦♦½; Free; Exploratorium



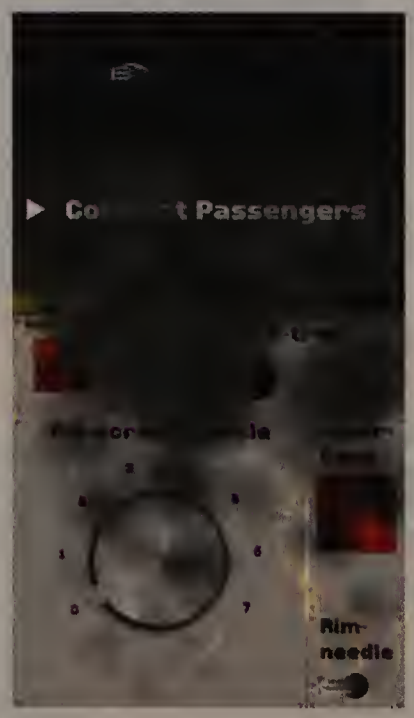

APP GEMS

## Quick, Social Video

**Threadlife** ♦♦♦ Threadlife lets you create a collage of your life in 3-second bursts of video the developers call *stitches* (go.macworld.com/thread).

**Vyclone** ♦♦♦ Vyclone is a nice little collaborative video-making app for iPhone that suffers from one fatal flaw—you have almost zero control over who you collaborate with (go.macworld.com/vyclone).

**Streamweaver** ♦♦♦½ Streamweaver is a nice way to add some collaborative style to moments you're already sharing with friends (go.macworld.com/streamw).

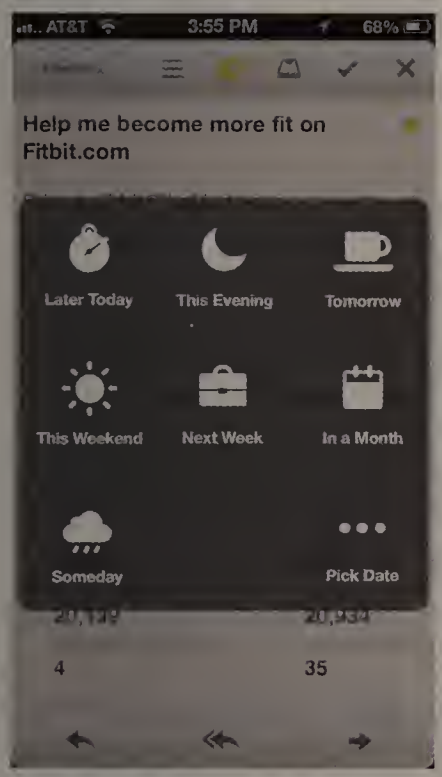



## Spaceteam

GAMES The premise of this challenging iOS game is that you and up to three friends are manning the bridge of a spaceship trying to outrun impending doom. In each round, you're presented with a control panel and a readout telling you what command you need to execute and how much time you have to do it. The catch: The command may appear only on another player's screen. As you progress, time gets tighter. At the end of the game, you get an award and a list of your accomplishments.

Because the game is multiplayer only, you must connect to your companions via Wi-Fi or Bluetooth, and those connections can be finicky. Spaceteam's level of challenge varies immensely, depending on the skills of your buddies. What I like best about the game, though, is that—unlike so many games that force you and your fellow players to silently stare at your screens—Spaceteam actually engages you with your friends.—DAN MOREN

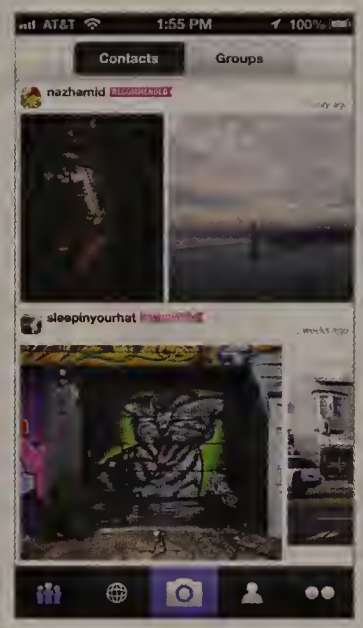
iPhone/iPad | ♦♦♦♦½; Free; Henry Smith




## Mailbox

EMAIL Mailbox is an iPhone-only app that makes managing your email a delight. As you navigate your inbox, you can swipe a message to the right to archive it; swipe a little further and it turns red, ready for deleting. A "snooze" feature lets you temporarily hide a message and specify a more convenient time when you'd like it to reappear—a system that works much better than simply letting unread messages pile up in your inbox. You can also tap, hold, and then drag messages in your list to reorder them. This excellent, intuitive app has replaced Mail in my iPhone's dock. I just wish I could use it on all my devices, and with more than Gmail accounts.—LEX FRIEDMAN

iPhone | ♦♦♦♦½; Free; Orchestra




## Flikr 2.0

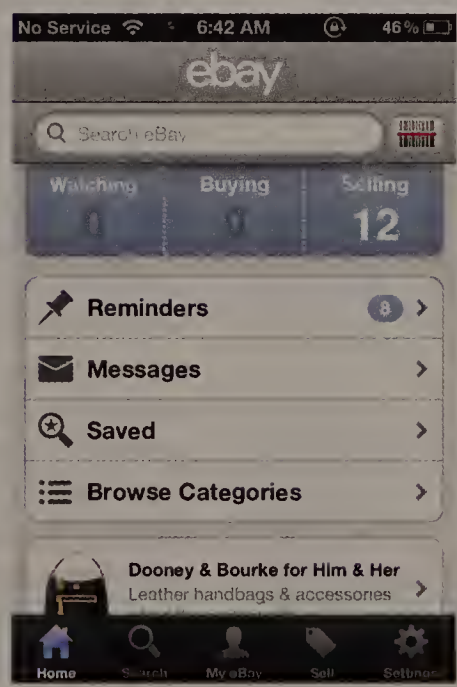
PHOTOGRAPHY After letting its photo-sharing app languish for years, Yahoo has given Flickr a fresh, modern interface. Overall, I'm impressed: Flickr 2.0 is quick, efficient, and intuitive. But it's largely playing catch-up with the competition, rather than offering innovations of its own. Plus, it has some key drawbacks: It's optimized for the iPhone only, and it doesn't handle video. Social networking is, of course, built into every shot. As you swipe through the images, you can tap the star to indicate a favorite, and comment. And a Share button lets you send a photo to Facebook, Twitter, or Tumblr, or email it—though I was surprised that Flickr 2.0 didn't automatically hook into my email contacts.—JACKIE DOVE

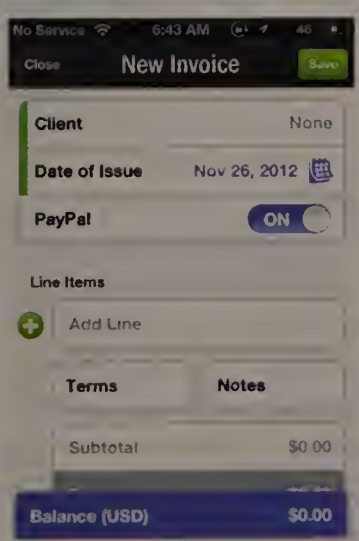
iPhone | ♦♦♦½; Free; Yahoo

## eBay for iOS

UTILITY With eBay's app, you don't ever have to worry about missing an auction. The app lets you track items you're watching, bidding on, or selling. If you're a buyer, you can review and submit best offers, bid on items at the last minute, and send messages and questions to sellers. If you're a seller, you can review best offers, track sold and unsold items, list new items, create and schedule auctions, and more. You can search for an item using keywords or by scanning a UPC, EAN, or QR codet. This app is reliable and ultracompatible with eBay's auction service, which means you can use it to place a critical last-minute bid.—SARAH JACOBSSON PUREWAL

iPhone/iPad | ♦♦♦♦½; Free; eBay




## FreshBooks

FINANCES FreshBooks is a free cloud-based accounting app that helps you manage clients and projects, send invoices, and track time, expenses, and estimates. The app is compatible with devices running iOS 4.3 or later. Perhaps the most useful feature for small business owners is the expenses feature. You can label your expenses by category, vendor, and date, and attach a picture of the associated receipt. You can also assign expenses to a client and convert expense reports into invoices for billing a client directly. FreshBooks is a convenient accounting app, especially if your business happens to be the right fit for what the app offers. While you can pick and choose specific parts of the app to suit your needs, FreshBooks really works best if you're running a business in which you have specific projects for different clients that involve billable hours. The first three clients are free; after that it costs $20 for 25 clients, and $30 for unlimited clients per month.—SARAH JACOBSSON PUREWAL

iPhone/iPod Touch/iPad | ♦♦♦½; Free; 2ndSite

# Reviews

Accessories and Add-ons for Your iOS Devices

Hardware

## Cygnett WorkMate for iPhone 5

4½; $25; Cygnett; us.cygnett.com

As a fan of earlier Cygnett iPhone cases, I was eager to get my hands on the $25 WorkMate for iPhone 5—and I wasn't disappointed. The two-piece case combines a thick polycarbonate shell with an impact-resistant inner silicone layer. Press-through button overlays cover the volume and Sleep/Wake controls. The volume overlay works well, but the Sleep/Wake control takes effort to press. The case is slim and grippable, and should help cushion impacts if your iPhone falls face-down. This version 5 is a worthy successor to my beloved version 4 case. It looks great and offers excellent protection.—LEX FRIEDMAN

## iOS Devices: Current Lineup

| PRODUCT | SPECS | RATING | PRICE [1] | DISPLAY | MORE INFO |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| iPad [2] | 16GB | Wi-Fi, 4½ | Wi-Fi: $499; Wi-Fi and cellular: $629 | 9.7-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/ipad4 |
| | 32GB | Wi-Fi, 4½ | Wi-Fi: $599; Wi-Fi and cellular: $729 | 9.7-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/ipad4 |
| | 64GB | Wi-Fi, | Wi-Fi: $699; Wi-Fi and cellular: $829 | 9.7-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/ipad4 |
| | 128GB | n/a, 4½ | Wi-Fi: $799; Wi-Fi and cellular: $929 | 9.7-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/ipad4 |
| | 16GB (iPad 2) | 4½ | Wi-Fi: $399; Wi-Fi and cellular: $529 | 9.7-inch color | go.macworld.com/ipad2 |
| iPad Mini | 16GB | Wi-Fi, 4 | Wi-Fi: $329; Wi-Fi and cellular: $459 | 7.9-inch color | go.macworld.com/ipadmini |
| | 32GB | Wi-Fi, 4 | Wi-Fi: $429; Wi-Fi and cellular: $559 | 7.9-inch color | go.macworld.com/ipadmini |
| | 64GB | Wi-Fi, 4 | Wi-Fi: $529; Wi-Fi and cellular, $659 | 7.9-inch color | go.macworld.com/ipadmini |
| iPhone 4, 4S, and 5 | 8GB 4[3] | 4 | Free | 3.5-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/iphone4 |
| | 16GB 4S[4] | 4 | $99 | 3.5-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/iphone4S |
| | 16GB 5[4] | 4½ | $199 | 4-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/iphone5 |
| | 32GB 5[4] | 4½ | $299 | 4-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/iphone5 |
| | 64GB 5[4] | 4½ | $399 | 4-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/iphone5 |
| iPod Touch 4th Generation | 16GB | n/a | $199 | 3.5-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/touch4 |
| | 32GB | 4½ | $249 | 3.5-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/touch4 |
| iPod Touch 5th Generation | 32GB | 4½ | $299 | 4-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/touch5 |
| | 64GB | 4½ | $399 | 4-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/touch5 |

n/a = Not available. [1]All prices are Apple's prices. [2]Separate Wi-Fi-and-cellular iPad models are available for AT&T's network and for Verizon's. [3]This phone is available only with an AT&T plan. [4]These models are available with an AT&T, Sprint, or Verizon plan.

## Fitbit One

4; $100; Fitbit; www.fitbit.com

Almost as soon as I strapped on the tiny Fitbit One fitness tracker, it became a great fitness sidekick. With an easy-to-read display, the gadget rotates through activity information including steps taken, floors climbed, miles traveled, and calories burned. It even displays a flower icon that grows or shrinks based on your recent activity level. If you keep it on during the night, the Fitbit One tracks the hours you sleep, and can wake you via a silent, vibrating alarm.

The Fitbit One stores your activity information for several days and syncs wirelessly with PCs, Macs, and certain iOS devices. On the Fitbit.com website (membership is included), you can track your progress via charts and graphs, and exchange messages with fellow Fitbit One users.—SARA WHITNEY WOOD

## Jabra Journey

3; $70; Jabra; www.jabra.com

When I'm driving and chatting through a Bluetooth speakerphone, I prefer huge, easy-to-access buttons. The $70 Jabra Journey delivers, with big buttons that are simple to find by feel alone. The unit's hands-free operation also works nicely: When the Journey recognized the number of an incoming call, it announced the name and gave me the choice of answering the call or ignoring it. But when issuing voice commands, I occasionally had to roar to be understood.

Call quality was up and down. During good calls, voices sounded clear and natural, but during bad calls, the voices were robotic and tinny.—AOIFE M. MCEVOY

## Powis iCase Mini

4; $60; Powis; www.powisicase.com

The $60 iCase mini from Powis is a book-style case with a variety of patterns that exude personality. You can customize the cover with an image of your own, and even opt to have the inside of the case inscribed in silver or gold foil.

The case weighs a bit less than half a pound, and its size does add a small, but noticeable, degree of thickness to the iPad mini. But it feels well-made and holds the iPad securely. Thanks to a hide-away kickstand, you can prop the case up in several different positions. In one position in particular, the stand was surprisingly sturdy, even with forceful typing.—LEX FRIEDMAN

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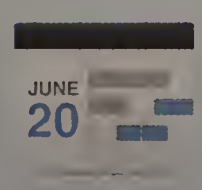
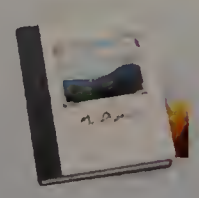



Calendars



Galleries

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Fast fixes for the most common Mac problems.

# MAC EMERGENCY!

Nobody ever said the Mac was perfect. (Well, OK, some people do, but you can't take them seriously.) Macs crash, freeze, refuse to turn on or go online, and generally misbehave just like any other computer—though maybe not as often or as severely.

Hence this guide. We'll tell you what to do when apps freeze up, when your Mac slows down, when OS X goes into a kernel panic, when the Internet refuses to work, and when the Trash refuses to empty. Such crises may be rare, but they do occur—and when they do, you want to be prepared.

BY JOE KISSELL & TED LANDAU

*ILLUSTRATIONS BY WILLIAM DUKE*

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY BREAK GLASS

TROUBLESHOOTING

# CRASHING APPS

Crashes and freezes in OS X happen infrequently, and most of them are easy to resolve. Better still, even though a crash or freeze may have any of numerous causes or symptoms, the same troubleshooting procedure works for most of them.

## SEND A REPORT, OR DON'T

Your first step should be to determine the scope of the problem. Is just one application having difficulties, or is your whole system affected?

If an app quits unexpectedly, it's at least part of the problem. Most app crashes trigger an error message. If you see one of these, click *Reopen* to send Apple an automated report with details about your system configuration and what went wrong, as well as to relaunch the app. Or click *OK* to send the report without relaunching the app.

If you don't want to send Apple information about crashes automatically, go to the *Security & Privacy* pane of System Preferences, click the lock icon, and enter your username and password to unlock it. Then click *Privacy*, select *Diagnostics & Usage*, and uncheck *Send diagnostic & usage data to Apple*. After you do that, the options in the crash dialog box will change to Ignore, Report, and Reopen; note that your system will send information to Apple only if you click the *Report* button.

## SKIP REOPENING WINDOWS

If the app crashes again after you relaunch it, you'll see a message asking whether to reopen the windows that were open the last time. I recommend clicking *Don't Reopen*, because something in one of the open windows may have caused the crash. Either way, as long as the app functions correctly from then on, you can go about your business. (If it continues to crash, follow the steps on the next page, beginning with "Restart.")

Sometimes, however, an app freezes but doesn't quit. If your symptom is an unresponsive Mac—perhaps featuring the dreaded spinning wait cursor, also known as the "spinning beach ball" or, as I like to call it, the "spinning pizza of death" (SPOD)—you'll need to isolate the cause.

**Sometimes an app freezes but doesn't quit, resulting in the dreaded spinning wait cursor or (as I like to call it) 'spinning pizza of death.'**

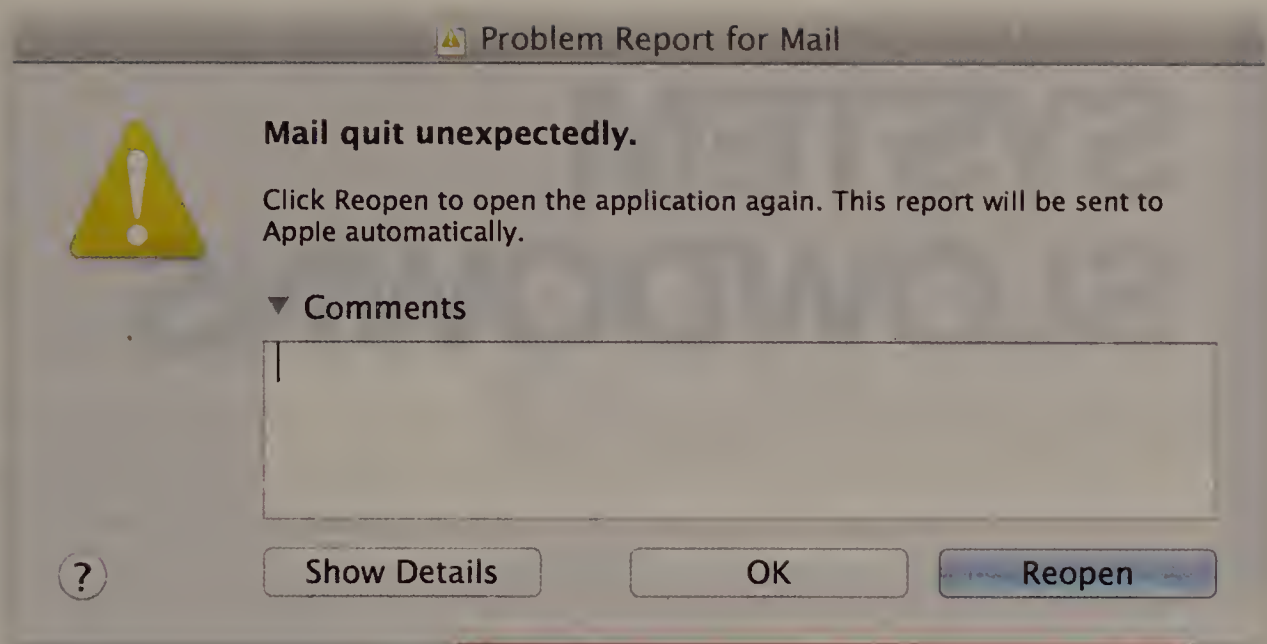
## SWITCH TO ANOTHER APP

Try switching to another app—by clicking its dock icon, for example, or by pressing ⌘-<Tab>. If other apps respond, and especially if the SPOD appears only when you hover your pointer over a window or menu belonging to the app that was in the foreground when your Mac stopped responding, try force-quitting that particular app. One way to do this is to press ⌘-<Option>-<Esc>, select the app in the list that appears, and then click *Force Quit*. (You may need to repeat this once or twice to get the app to quit.) If force-quitting succeeds, try relaunching the app. More often than not, that simple process will be enough to bring the app back to life.

If relaunching (or force-quitting and then relaunching) an app fails to do the trick, if none of your apps respond, or if your mouse pointer is frozen in place on your Mac's screen, move on to the following steps, performing each one in the order in which it appears, until the problem goes away.

## RESTART

If you can, choose *Restart* from the Apple menu. If not, force a restart by pressing ⌘-<Control>-<Eject>. (The <Eject> key, if your keyboard has one, looks like an upward-pointing arrow with a horizontal line beneath it.) If even that doesn't work, press and hold the power button until your Mac shuts down, and then press the power button again to turn your Mac back on.




**Send a Report** Click 'Reopen' to relaunch the app and send Apple a crash report; click 'OK' just to send the report.

## CHECK DISK SPACE

A startup disk that's extremely low on disk space (10GB or less) can lead to slowdowns and worse. Delete some files (or move them to another disk) to free up more space. For help with this operation, see go.macworld.com/drivespace.

## TRY ANOTHER DOCUMENT

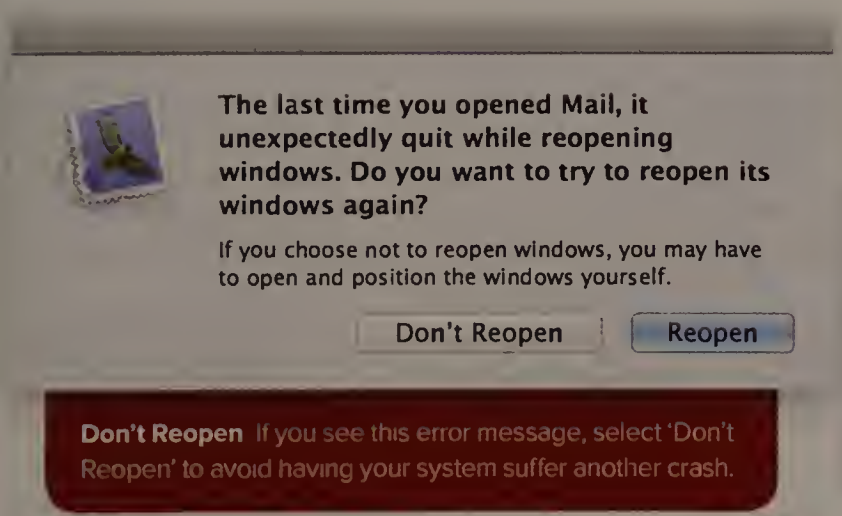
If an app always misbehaves when a particular document is open, try closing that file and opening a different document. A damaged or corrupted file could be causing the problem.

## UPDATE YOUR SOFTWARE

Make sure that OS X and any apps that you use regularly are up-to-date. A posted software update may have corrected a crash-producing bug that's bedeviling you. Choose *Software Update* from the Apple menu to update your Apple software as well as anything you may have downloaded from the Mac App Store; for anything else, either use the app's built-in software-update feature or download the latest version.

## DISCONNECT PERIPHERALS

Try disconnecting any new devices you've recently attached—especially USB devices—one by one. Restart after each disconnection, and see if the problem recurs. If not, the device may be faulty, or (more likely) it may require updated software or firmware. Contact the device's manufacturer for assistance.




**Don't Reopen** If you see this error message, select 'Don't Reopen' to avoid having your system suffer another crash.

## DISABLE PLUG-INS

Disable or remove any extensions, plug-ins, or other extras included with the app that's crashing. Try them one by one, to rule out the possibility that the add-on software is the culprit.

## TRY A SAFE BOOT

To disable various pieces of software that otherwise load automatically at startup, and to run cleanup processes that may resolve random gremlins in your system, perform a safe boot: Restart your Mac, and then, immediately after you hear the startup sound, press and hold the <Shift> key until the gray Apple logo appears on the screen. If the problem goes away, restart normally and try again.

## REPAIR YOUR DISK

Disk errors can lead to all sorts of problems, persistent crashes included. To deal with them, try using OS X Recovery and using Disk Utility's Repair Disk feature to look for and fix common disk errors.

## RUN APPLE HARDWARE TEST

Apple Hardware Test is a special utility that you can run to evaluate your Mac's logic board, RAM, graphics board, and other components for errors that could lead to crashes and worse. Apple's support site has complete instructions at support.apple.com/kb/PH11342.

## ADD RAM

If your Mac has relatively little RAM (say, 4GB or less) and available slots for adding more, try increasing the RAM. Extra RAM can speed up operations on your Mac and can reduce the likelihood of crashes and hangs related to the system's running out of memory.

If you still have crashes or freezes despite trying all of these steps, contact the app's developer (if it's a single app) or Apple (if the problem is systemwide) for advice and assistance.—JOE KISSELL

TROUBLESHOOTING

# SYSTEM SLOWDOWNS

It happens to every Mac user sooner or later: The virtual gears inside your computer begin to act as though they're running in a vat of tapioca pudding. No matter what you try to do, your Mac moves at a pace that a snail could run circles around. Before carting the machine off to an Apple Genius Bar, try these fixes.

## RESTART YOUR MAC

One of the simplest steps you can take is also one of the most effective. Restarting your Mac cures most slowdowns, because it forces background processes to quit, frees up RAM, and generally lets you begin afresh.

## CHECK NETWORK PREFERENCES

For many Mac users, a slow Internet connection is synonymous with a slow computer. That's because almost everything they do—from surfing the Web to checking email—requires Internet access. If your online activity is moving at a crawl, improving your connection may be the cure.

Do you see a spinning beach ball in Safari when you try to load webpages? Initially it may be unclear whether pages are taking an unusually long time to load or whether your connection is broken. Select *Apple menu → System Preferences → Network*. Click *Assist me → Diagnostics*, pick your connection type, and click *Continue* to run the tests. If a problem pops up, follow the Network Diagnostics tool's advice for dealing with it.

**Network Rx**
If Safari is slowing you down, check the health of your network connections.

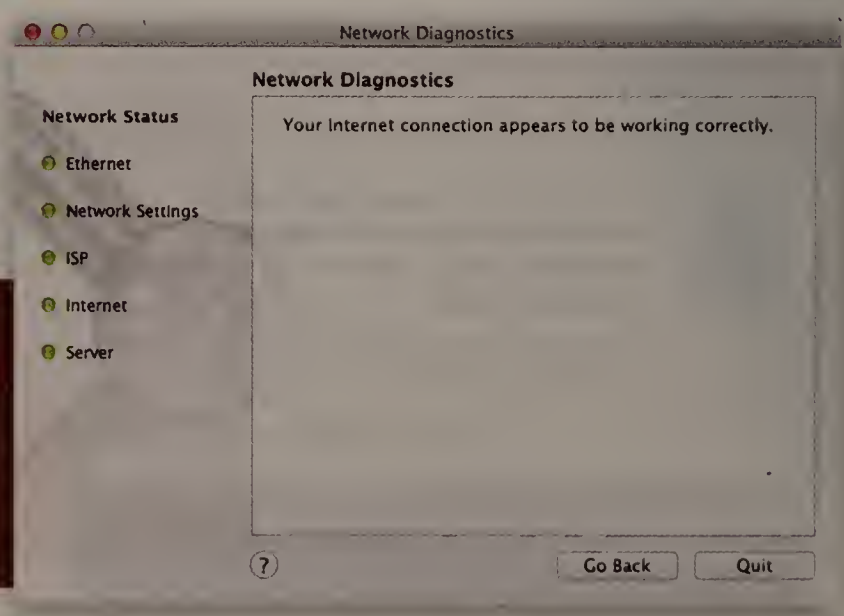
## CHECK YOUR SPEED

Go to a site that tests Internet connection speeds, if you can get the page to load. Since I use Comcast Internet service, I go to Comcast Speed Test (speedtest.comcast.net). Other options include Speedtest.net and TestMySpeed.com.

You probably pay for certain upload and download speeds. Look at your bill or check with your ISP to see what those speeds are supposed to be. If you detect a slowdown, call the ISP to ask if it is experiencing general problems that may be affecting you. If so, you'll have to wait for someone else to correct the issue. Alternatively, your ISP may offer to check and perhaps fix your modem connection through remote commands.

## TEST YOUR MACS

If you have more than one Mac, test the Internet speed on all of them. If the slowdown occurs on only one machine,



the problem likely originates with that Mac. That system may, for instance, have an unusually weak Wi-Fi connection. If so, try simply turning your Wi-Fi off and then back on: Go to the Wi-Fi menu in the menu bar and select *Turn Wi-Fi Off*. Wait a few seconds, and then turn it back on.

## DISCONNECT AND RECONNECT YOUR MODEM

Unplug your Internet modem, wait for about 10 seconds, and plug it back in. If you have an AirPort Extreme or other separate router, do the same with it. Wait for everything to reboot. Check your speed again. (For more suggestions, see "Can't Get Online" on page 48.)

## CHECK YOUR DISK USAGE WITH ACTIVITY MONITOR

As noted on page 39 ("Check Disk Space"), to run at a good pace, OS X must have adequate free space on the startup drive. If your Mac's available disk space is near zero, the system will be sluggish.

One way to check the amount of free disk space on your Mac is to launch Activity Monitor (in the /Applications/Utilities folder of OS X) and click the *Disk Usage* tab at the bottom. My rule of thumb is that a system should have at least 10GB available (or 10 percent of the drive's capacity, whichever is smaller). If your Mac's free space falls below this threshold, you should clear some additional space.

## SEARCH FOR LARGE FILES

An easy way to locate big files that you may no longer need is to use Spotlight. While you are in the Finder, press ⌘-F, click the plus (+) sign, click the *Kind* pop-up menu, and select *Other*. Select *File size* from the resulting list, and then click *OK*. Set up the criterion to read *File Size is greater than 500MB*. If nothing of consequence appears when you run that search, select a smaller file size and try again. Or try using a utility such as ld-design's $13 WhatSize (whatsizemac.com). Delete any files you no longer need.

**Check Memory Usage** To see whether you're overtaxing your RAM, consult your system's Activity Monitor.

> **The simplest way to clean out the cache and log files on your Mac is with a special-purpose utility such as OnyX from Titanium Software.**

## DELETE CACHE AND LOG FILES

Ordinarily, cache files, such as those in the ~/Library/Caches folder, help your Mac run faster. If you delete them as a quick fix, your system will rebuild them later. Log files, such as those in the ~/Library/Logs folder, keep track of past events on your Mac, including past crash reports. Most users never look at these files, so in all likelihood you can delete them without encountering any adverse consequences.

The simplest way to clean out your cache and log files is with a utility such as OnyX from Titanium Software (go.macworld.com/onyx; donation requested). Launch OnyX and open the *Cleaning* tab. In your initial pass, delete only items in the User and Logs sections.

It's possible that a bug, such as a "runaway" log file, may be causing your drive to fill up much faster than it should. If the system's available free space returns to near zero shortly after you clear the files, a bug of this type may be the culprit. If your Mac has this symptom, check the Web for possible solutions.

## CHECK YOUR CPU USAGE

If your Mac's central processing unit is overwhelmed by an app, everything on your system may slow down.

Launch Activity Monitor, and select *My Processes* from the pop-up menu near the top of the window. Click the *% CPU* column to sort by that criterion.

If an app consistently remains at or near the top of the % CPU list—and especially if it accounts for an atypically high percentage of the CPU's workload (probably anything over 50 percent, and certainly anything over 80 percent)—that program may be gumming up the works. To find out, select the app and click the *Quit Process* button.

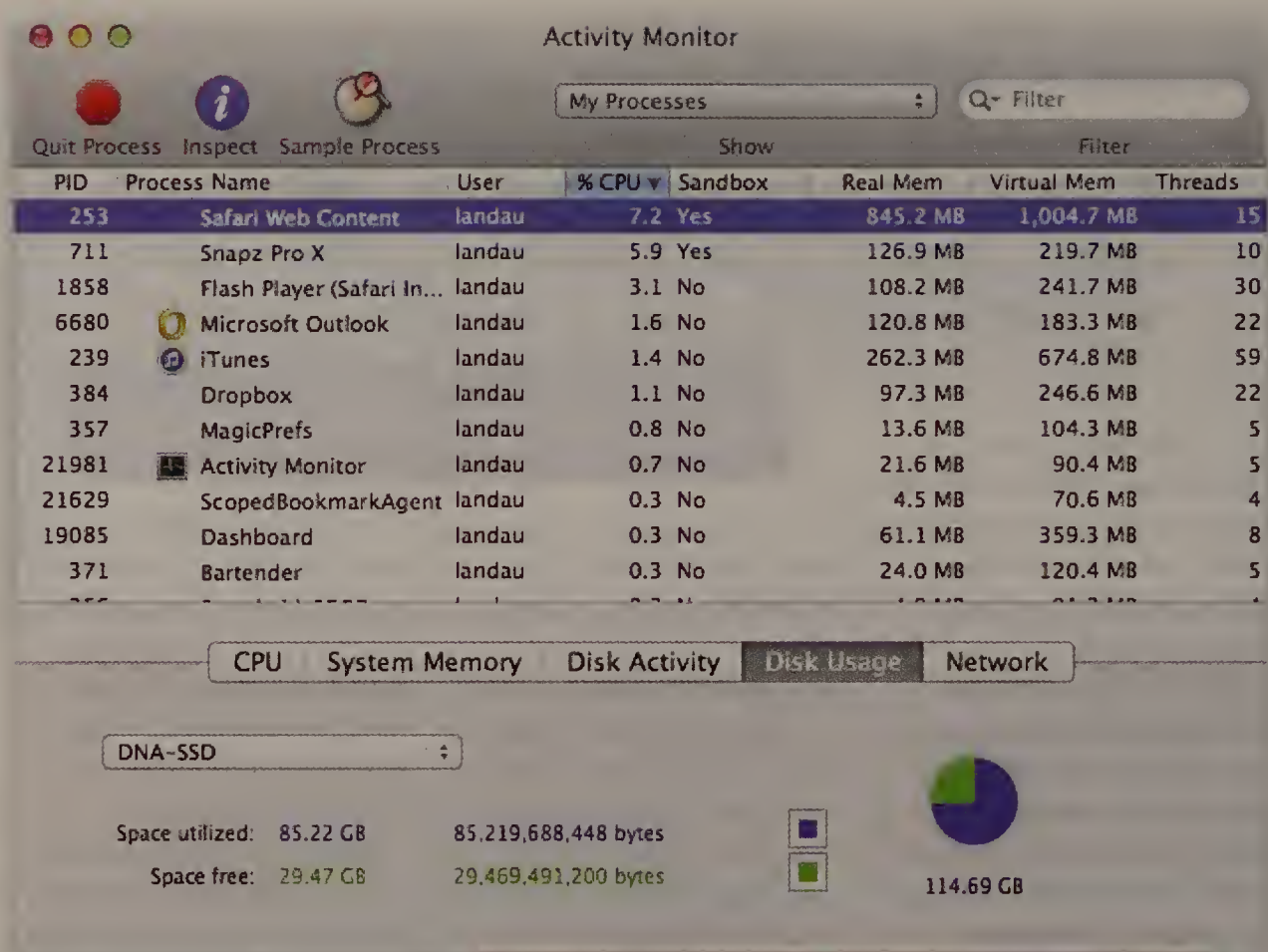
The most likely source of such trouble, by far, is Apple's Safari (and more specifically, a webpage that contains Flash). If pages are loading extremely slowly, and if the % CPU figure for Safari and/or Safari Web Content remains high, it's time for you to take action.

To reduce the odds that a Safari slowdown will recur, minimize the number of webpages that you keep open. You might also try using Google Chrome: If one tab misbehaves in Chrome, you can use Activity Monitor to zap it without bringing down the whole app.

## CHECK VIRTUAL MEMORY

Macs depend on a combination of physical memory and virtual memory to get things done. Virtual memory uses space on the Mac's drive. Physical memory accesses installed RAM chips. Physical memory is faster.

The more heavily your Mac has to rely on virtual memory, the slower it will perform. Virtual memory also creates




**Check Disk Usage** If your system is running out of disk space, it's also running out of virtual memory.

swapfiles that grow larger over time. (To find them, select *Go → Go to Folder* in the Finder, type `/var/vm`, and click *Go*.) Swapfiles can contribute to a system slowdown by using up disk space, but you don't need to delete them manually. Instead, go on to the next troubleshooting option...

## QUIT APPS

To improve matters, quit apps that you aren't currently using. Then restart your Mac. This action clears the swapfiles (among other things).

## CHECK MEMORY USAGE WITH ACTIVITY MONITOR

As suggested in "Check Your CPU Usage" (page 41), to investigate memory-usage problems, first launch Activity Monitor. Look under the column headers Real Mem and Virtual Mem. If an app is using a disproportionate amount of Real Mem and Virtual Mem, you can quit the app by selecting it in the list and clicking *Quit Process*.

I generally focus on the System Memory statistics at the bottom of Activity Monitor. (Click the *System Memory* tab to see these.) If the 'Page outs' and 'Swap used' values are high (over 2GB, as an approximation) and the amount of memory in the Free listing is approaching zero, insufficient memory is probably contributing to your slowdown.

## DEAL WITH PERSISTENT PROBLEMS

When speed and memory problems remain, or soon reappear, one of two things may be responsible. First, the problem may be a "memory leak"—a bug that causes a particular app to use excessive amounts of memory. Often a Web search will confirm this situation and offer further advice. Second, your Mac may not have enough installed memory to meet your current needs.

**If your Mac doesn't already have its maximum amount of memory installed, adding RAM is the quickest way to give it more zip.**

## ADD RAM

We mentioned this option on page 39. If your Mac doesn't already have its maximum amount of memory installed, and if its memory is accessible for upgrades, adding RAM is the quickest and cheapest way to give the system more zip.

See Apple's system-specific guidelines for adding RAM to a MacBook Pro (support.apple.com/kb/HT1270), a MacBook (support.apple.com/kb/HT1651), an iMac (support.apple.com/kb/HT1423), a Mac Pro (support.apple.com/kb/HT4433), and a Mac mini (support.apple.com/kb/HT4432).

## GET A BIGGER HARD DRIVE

If you continually bump up against your hard drive's space limits, consider either replacing your current drive with a larger-capacity unit or offloading some of your files to an external drive. Shifting from a conventional hard drive to a solid-state drive can speed things up, too. The site iFixit (www.ifixit.com) contains useful step-by-step guides to replacing the hard drive on many Mac models.

## BUY A NEW MAC

If you can afford it—and especially if your Mac is more than three years old—your best bet might be to buy a new system. A Mac several years newer than your current model is likely to have a faster processor, more memory, a larger and faster hard drive, faster ports (such as USB 3.0 in place of USB 2.0), and improved Wi-Fi performance. Add it all up, and it equals no more slowdowns, until the cycle repeats itself in a couple of years.—TED LANDAU

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TROUBLESHOOTING

# KERNEL PANICS

Most crashes on a Mac affect just one application. But you may encounter a type of systemwide crash that brings down your entire Mac: a kernel panic. This occurs without warning, and you can't save your work or do anything else without restarting. Furthermore, because kernel panics may be due to different causes, you may have trouble diagnosing the problem and preventing its recurrence.

## IDENTIFY IT CORRECTLY

On systems running OS X 10.7 Lion or earlier, kernel panics usually cause the screen to dim from top to bottom; a message in several languages then appears, telling you to restart your Mac (by holding down the power button for several seconds to turn the computer off, and then pressing it again to turn the system back on).

Starting in OS X 10.8 Mountain Lion, OS X automatically restarts when your Mac suffers a kernel panic; then it displays a message for 60 seconds (or until you press a key) informing you that your Mac restarted because of a problem. (If, however, the kernel panic repeats every time your Mac restarts, OS X will give up after five tries and shut your Mac down.)

As Apple notes on its support page for dealing with kernel panics (support.apple.com/kb/TS3742), something as random and fleeting as malformed network packets can cause a kernel panic. So, if you experience this problem just once, or only rarely, your best bet is to restart the machine, get back to work, and forget about it.

But if you encounter kernel panics frequently (apparently Apple defines "frequently" as "more than once every few weeks"), you should take additional troubleshooting steps. The sequence of steps that I recommend here differs somewhat from the sequence that Apple outlines.

## REOPEN YOUR APPS

If you're running OS X 10.8 or later, immediately after your Mac restarts on its own, you'll see a dialog box asking whether to reopen the apps that were open before the crash happened. Click *Open*. If the kernel panic recurs, the likely culprit is one of the running programs, so click *Cancel* the next time around. Either way, another dialog box will ask if you want to see more information and report the problem to Apple. You probably do, so click *Report*. You might not be able to make any sense of the technical details, but glance over them and then click *OK* to send the report to Apple.

If you run into kernel panics repeatedly, you will just have to roll up your sleeves and do some serious troubleshooting to get rid of them permanently.

## PERFORM A SAFE BOOT

Restart your Mac and hold down the <Shift> key until you see the gray Apple logo. Taking this action temporarily disables some software that might be causing problems, and it also directs your system to run some cleanup processes. If the kernel panic doesn't recur in this mode, restart your Mac normally.

## UPDATE YOUR SOFTWARE

Outdated software is often implicated in kernel panics. Possible culprits include OS X itself and (very rarely) regular applications. More commonly

the underlying problem relates to low-level software such as kernel extensions and drivers.

If you've installed software that works with peripherals (network adapters, audio interfaces, graphics cards, input devices, or the like) or antivirus, file-system, or screen-capture tools, check for newer versions. To update OS X, Apple apps, and items purchased from the Mac App Store, select *Software Update* from the Apple menu; for other apps, use a built-in updater or check the developer's website.

## UPDATE YOUR FIRMWARE

Software Update may also notify you of available firmware updates for your Mac. If so, be sure to install them. Another option is to check for firmware updates that are applicable to your Mac model at support.apple.com/kb/ht1237.

## CHECK YOUR DISK

Make sure that your startup disk has at least 10GB of free space. If it does not, delete some files to make room. Next, you'll want to find and fix any disk errors: Start from another volume, run Disk Utility, select your startup disk, and click *Repair Disk*. If you're running OS X 10.7 or later, the easiest way to do this is to restart and then immediately afterward press and hold ⌘-R to enter OS X Recovery. If that doesn't work, or if you have an older Mac, you can start up from a bootable duplicate of your hard disk or your OS X Install media.

**If you've added any after-market RAM to your Mac, try turning off your system, removing the additional RAM, and restarting.**

## CHECK YOUR PERIPHERALS

If kernel panics continue to plague your computer, shut down the Mac and disconnect everything except the bare-minimum items (keyboard, pointing device, and display, if those pieces aren't built in)—including any hardware you've added inside your Mac, such as a graphics card. Then turn your system back on.

If the problem doesn't reappear at this point, shut down your system a second time, reattach one device, and restart. Repeat the process for each device in your setup. If you see a kernel panic immediately after connecting a piece of hardware, that device may be the problem.

## CHECK YOUR RAM

Defective RAM can cause kernel panics—and unfortunately the defects sometimes manifest themselves only after an interval of time has passed following their installation. If you've added any after-market RAM to your Mac, try turning off your system, removing the additional RAM, and restarting. If that operation makes the kernel panics vanish, contact the company that sold you the RAM to see about a warranty replacement.

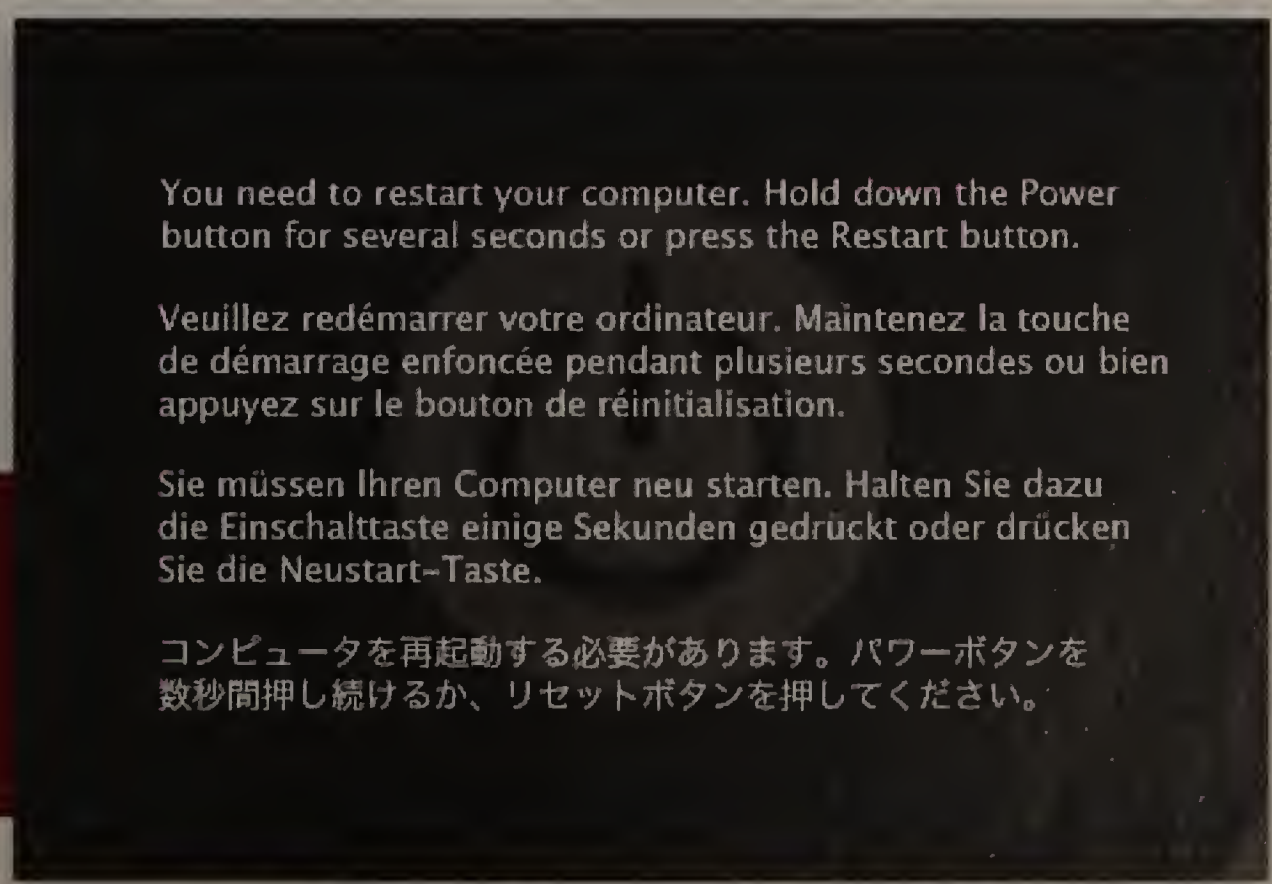
## CONSULT A GENIUS

After you've exhausted all of the preceding options, the troubleshooting steps that remain to be tried get more time-consuming—enough so that, if I got to this point with no end in sight, I'd think about setting up an appointment at the nearest Genius Bar.

## REINSTALL OS X

Have a spare hard drive at your disposal? You can try installing a fresh copy of OS X on it, booting from that drive, and running Software Update to ensure that everything on the system you're working with is current. If the kernel panic doesn't occur when you run your Mac from that extra drive, you can be fairly certain that you're dealing with a software issue—in all likelihood some obscure gremlin lurking on your startup disk.

It won't please you to learn that the easiest solution is to start up from another volume (or use OS X Recovery) and then reinstall OS X over your existing Mac. Worse, if that procedure doesn't work, the next step is to erase the disk and reinstall everything from scratch.—JOE KISSELL




**Kernel Panic in Lion** The kernel panic screen looks like this in versions of OS X up through Lion.

TROUBLESHOOTING

# MAC WON'T TURN ON

One of the scariest things that your Mac can do, short of emitting actual flames and smoke, is refuse to turn on at all. You press the power button and nothing happens—no startup sound, no light, nothing. If this happens, take a few minutes to perform several straightforward checks before hauling your Mac to the nearest Apple Store for repair. This seemingly intractable problem often has a simple solution.

## MAKE SURE IT'S PLUGGED IN

Your first troubleshooting move when presented with a completely unresponsive Mac should always be to ascertain the answer to the classic question: Is it plugged in? (You should be aware that failure to ask this question in the critical situation where it would have solved a hardware problem is grounds for Apple Genius disbarment.) To make sure that your Mac is getting the juice it needs, you may have to trace the entire flow of electricity to your Mac.

First check your system's power cord to ensure that it is firmly seated at the points where it connects to the computer and where it plugs into the wall. If the flow of electricity goes through an outlet strip or a UPS, make sure that the additional piece is also connected and turned on. Also confirm that any surge protectors still work—a power surge might have knocked them off.

You can confirm that an outlet is good by plugging something else, such as a light or a fan, into it. (If the outlet doesn't work, check your fuses or circuit breakers to see if they've been blown or tripped.) If the outlet and all cable connections are working properly, make sure that the power cord has no crimps, breaks, or other damage; a snapped wire inside the cord can bring everything to a halt.

## UNPLUG EVERYTHING

Once you've established that your AC power path is good, it's time to shift your focus to your Mac. Unplug everything that you can aside from the power cord, the mouse and keyboard (if those input devices are wired), and the monitor (if it's not built in); then try pressing the power button again. If your Mac turns on, you'll know that one of your peripherals was at fault.

If your Mac *doesn't* turn on, it's worthwhile to attempt to reset the machine's SMC (System Management Controller), a chip that manages various hardware functions, including the operation of the power button. Directions for resetting the SMC vary from one Mac model to another. Apple has posted instructions for specific models; they are available at support.apple.com/kb/HT3964.

## CHECK YOUR POWER ADAPTER

If you have a Mac laptop, its battery should last through most power outages (from whatever cause), so you may not notice that you have a power-related problem until the battery runs out, at which point your Mac might simply appear to be dead.

So try all of the preceding tips, but also check your power adapter. If you have an AC cable attached to the adapter (as opposed to a plug that runs directly into the wall), make sure that the cable is securely connected. If you have access to another AC adapter, switch to it briefly; if the system works normally, you'll know that the original adapter is bad; if not, the problem may be in your Mac.

## GET HELP FROM THE PROS

Still not having any luck? In that case, you need professional help. I've had Macs fail to turn on for reasons such as faulty logic-board components and blown power supplies, but difficulties of that sort require heavy-duty intervention. An Apple Store or authorized repair center should be able to diagnose and correct the problem.—JOE KISSELL

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TROUBLESHOOTING

# CAN'T GET ONLINE

If your Web browser, your email program, or any of a hundred other Internet-connected apps on your Mac starts complaining about not having a connection, you may have to do a bit of sleuthing to figure out the source. After all, a disruption anywhere along the chain between your Mac and a distant server could cause an outage, and the right place to look isn't always obvious. I suggest trying each of the following steps, in order, until you're able to connect again.

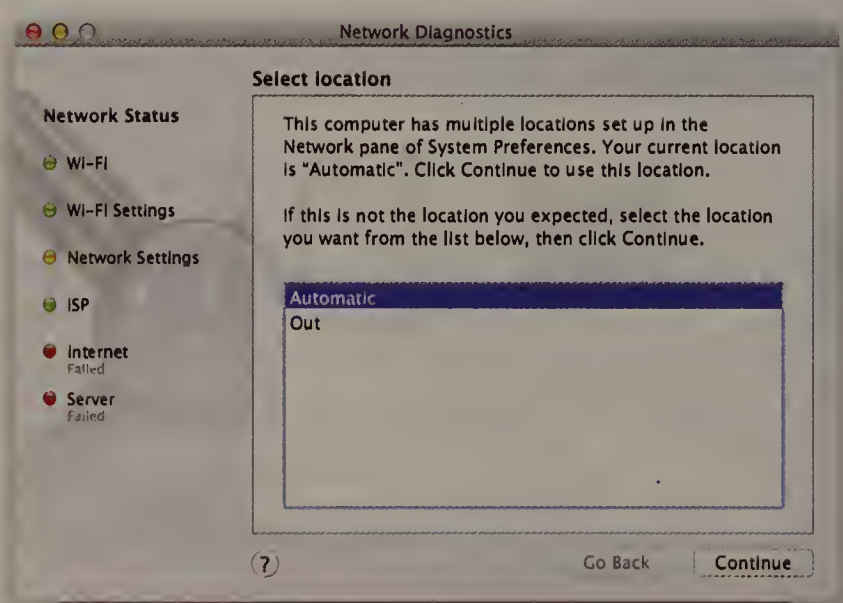
## TRY ANOTHER SITE OR APP

To make sure that the problem isn't restricted to one website, try visiting another—preferably one that's highly reliable, such as Google's homepage.

Similarly, to establish that the issue isn't limited to the current application (such as your email program or Web browser), try connecting to the Internet with another app. If only one site seems to be having problems, visit Down For Everyone Or Just Me (isup.me) and enter the problematic site's URL. The service will tell you whether computers elsewhere on the Internet can successfully connect to the site. If they can't, at least you aren't alone—though you're out of luck for now.

## USE NETWORK DIAGNOSTICS

Certain types of network problems may cause your browser to display a Network Diagnostics button. This behavior is OS X's way of offering to help debug your connection problem, and I suggest that you accept the help. (If you don't see a button, you can launch Network Diagnostics manually: Choose *Apple menu* → *System Preferences* and click *Network*. Click *Assist me*, and then click *Diagnostics*.)




**Select Location** Apple's Network Diagnostics utility starts by analyzing each network configuration or location.

The Network Diagnostics utility will guide you through a series of procedures and tests on subjects that range from ethernet and Wi-Fi connections to network configuration and DNS servers. The utility steps you through the process for one network configuration, or location, at a time. Sometimes the utility can repair problems itself; but when it can't, it usually provides more-detailed information about the nature of the problem and suggests ways of solving it.

If your Mac connects to the Internet through Wi-Fi, check the Wi-Fi menu (at the top right of the screen) to confirm that your system is connected to the intended network. Macs have been known to hop onto less-desirable networks at inconvenient times.

If the menu's icon has an exclamation point superimposed on it (indicating that it can't successfully connect to any network), try choosing *Turn Wi-Fi Off* from the menu, waiting about 30 seconds,

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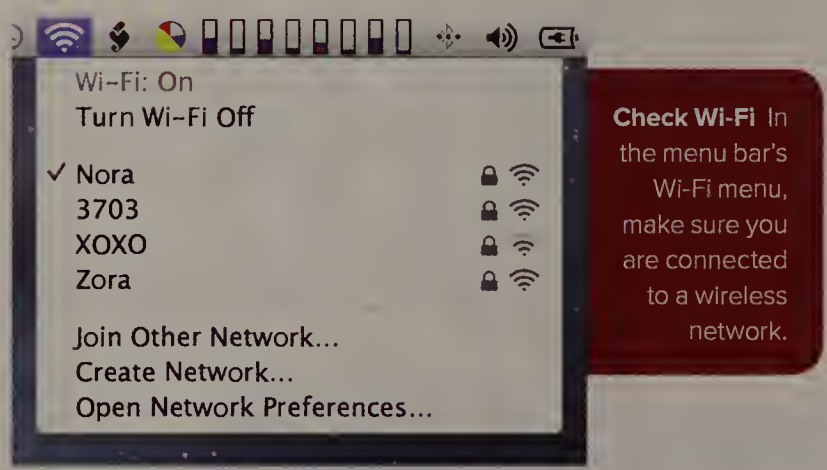



**Check Wi-Fi** In the menu bar's Wi-Fi menu, make sure you are connected to a wireless network.

and then choosing *Turn Wi-Fi On*. If that tactic doesn't work, restart your Mac. Sometimes that simple-yet-seemingly-purposeless action turns out to be the only way to clear certain wacky errors that prevent Wi-Fi from connecting.

## TRY ANOTHER DEVICE

If you have access to another computer or mobile device that uses the same Internet connection that your balking system does, check to see if you can connect to a website on that device. If not, you can rule out your Mac as the source of the problem and look elsewhere for a solution.

On the other hand, if the second device can connect to the Internet and your Mac can't, even after you restart it, skip ahead to the step "Check Your DNS Settings."

## RESET YOUR ROUTER

For network problems that lie outside your Mac, if you own or control the network device that your Mac connects to (such as an AirPort base station, Time Capsule, router, switch, or hub), turn that device off, wait for about 10 seconds, and then turn it back on. Wait for the network device to power on completely (in some cases, this may be a multistep process that takes several minutes); then try connecting again.

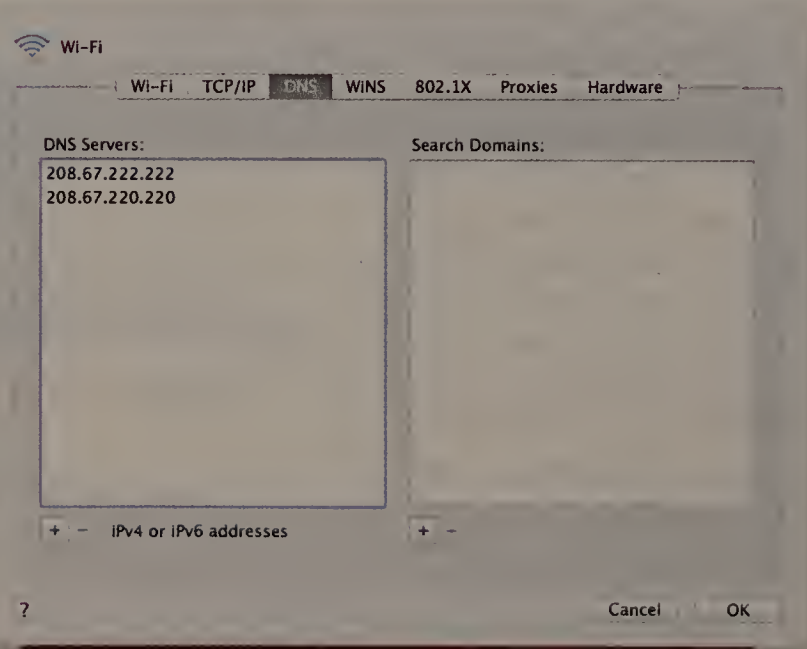
If more than one such device is situated between your Mac and the Internet—if, for example, you have an AirPort Express connected to a cable modem—start with the device closest to the Internet and work your way back toward your Mac, cycling the power on each device as you go.

## CHECK YOUR DNS SETTINGS

The Domain Name System enables your machine to convert domain names (like apple.com) into IP addresses (such as 17.172.224.47) that computers can understand. If the DNS server that your Mac uses is offline, slow, or faulty, you may be unable to connect to any site or service by name.

If none of the websites you try—including very stable ones such as Google—respond, here's an easy way to check whether DNS is functional. In your browser, type this URL: `http://74.125.230.243`. That address should bring up the Google website. If it does, your Internet connection is fine, and the problem involves your system's ability to look up domain names.

**If the DNS server that your Mac uses is offline, slow, or faulty, you may be unable to connect to any site or service by name.**




**Adjust DNS** If you find that you're unable to reach any websites, change your Domain Name System settings.

To fix that problem, open the *Network* pane of System Preferences and select your network connection in the list that appears on the left. Click *Advanced*, and then click *DNS*. Look in the DNS Servers field, and you should see one or more IP addresses listed there. If those addresses are enabled (a status that OS X indicates by showing them in black type, rather than gray), select each one in turn and click the minus (-) button.

Then, regardless of whether you already see IP addresses on the list in gray, click the plus (+) button and enter `208.67.222.220`; afterward, repeat the process with `208.67.222.222`. (These two addresses point to OpenDNS, a free DNS service that may be more reliable than the default servers that your ISP uses.) Click *OK* and then click *Apply*. Now cross your fingers and try connecting again.

## GETTING BACK ONLINE

Even if you follow all of the steps outlined in this section, you may not connect to the Internet successfully, because some outages are beyond your control. Because of the Internet's distributed nature, an equipment failure at an ISP can affect users besides its own customers. And on a larger scale, accidental damage to a major fiber-optic cable can wipe out Internet access to a large region.

With some Internet outages, all you can do is wait them out. But if the problem lies beyond your local network, your ISP should at least be able to tell you the nature of the problem and provide an expected repair time.—JOE KISSELL

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TROUBLESHOOTING

# TRASH WON'T EMPTY

When you drag files or folders to the Trash icon in the Dock, OS X doesn't delete them immediately. Just as you can pull something out of a physical trash can before the garbage collector drives by, you can remove files from the Trash until you get rid of them for good (and thereby recover the disk space that those files were using), by choosing *Finder → Empty Trash*.

## QUIT THE APP

If the error message asserts that a file is in use, quit the last app that accessed that file (if you know what it is). Then try again to empty the Trash. Sometimes the error message is spurious—for example, Mail may report that a file is in use long after you sent it as an attachment. Quitting Mail, emptying the Trash, and then re-opening Mail usually fixes the problem.

## OVERRIDE THE LOCK

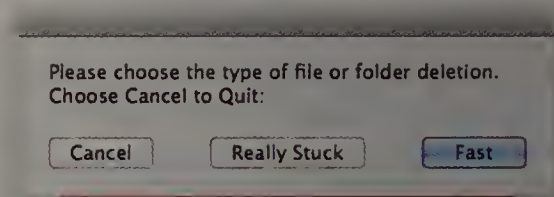
Does the error message tell you that a file is locked? Hold down <Option> and again choose *Finder → Empty Trash*; in this situation, the <Option> key tells OS X to override locked files.

## FORCE THE TRASH TO EMPTY

Those tricks won't work in cases where the error message declares that you don't have permission to delete a file, or where no error message appears at all but the Trash remains full. In those instances, you have a couple of alternatives.

You might already have a utility that, among other things, can force-empty the Trash. For example, both Maintain's $19 Cocktail (go.macworld.com/cocktail) and Titanium Software's free (donations requested) OnyX (go.macworld.com/onyx) offer this feature among their tools.

For a small utility whose only function is to force the Trash to empty, try NoName ScriptWare's free (donations requested) Trash It (www.nonamescriptware.com).




**Trash It** If your trash won't empty, this modest utility from NoName ScriptWare can force the issue.

## HIT THE TERMINAL

All of those utilities send OS X commands that you can issue yourself in Terminal. To do so, open Terminal (in /Applications/Utilities), type `cd ~/.Trash`, and press <Return>. Type `sudo rm -R` followed by a letterspace (note that the letterspace is essential), but don't press <Return> yet.

Instead, click the Trash icon in your Dock to open a window displaying the contents of the Trash. Select everything in that window and drag it into the Terminal window; this action adds the paths of all of those files and folders to the `rm` (remove) command. Now, press <Return>, and enter your administrator password when prompted. In a moment or two (depending on how much material is in your Trash), the Trash icon should return to its empty state.—JOE KISSELL

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# 33 QUICK TIPS FOR iOS

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BY DAN MOREN AND LEX FRIEDMAN
ILLUSTRATIONS BY JONATHAN CARLSON

iOS6

# Spread the Word

## 01 Let your device read aloud

Enabling the Speak option makes it possible for your iOS device to read aloud any selectable text. Launch the *Settings* app, tap *General*, and then choose *Accessibility*. Scroll down to *Speak Selection*, and tap to turn it on.

Now, go into any app where you can highlight text. Your options include Mail, Notes, Safari, and many others. Select some text, and you'll see a new option appear in the contextual menu (you may have to tap the right arrow to view more options). Just tap the *Speak* command, and your iOS device will start reading the text aloud to you.

## 02 Enable the Emoji keyboard

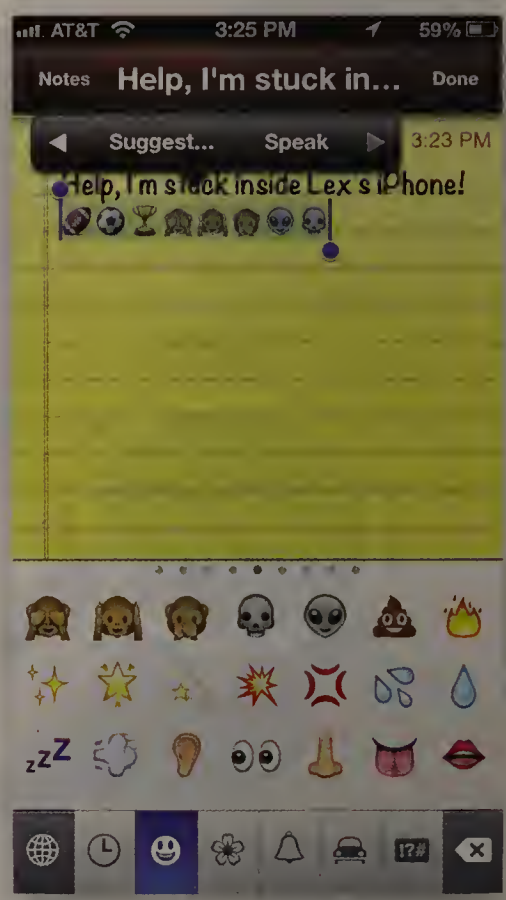
Perhaps you have seen the iconographic Emoji symbols in email messages, iMessages, and tweets, and wondered how the heck people managed to type them. Maybe you've mistakenly assumed that you need to purchase a third-party app to gain access to those special symbols.

You don't: Apple treats the Emoji symbols as an international keyboard. Launch *Settings*, and navigate to *General* → *Keyboard* → *International Keyboards*. Then tap *Add New Keyboard* and find Emoji. Now open an app where you can type some text.

Next to the spacebar, you'll see a little globe icon. Tap it to switch between your regular keyboard and the Emoji one, which contains many tabs full of different characters. Tap those characters to insert them wherever you would like. (If you have many international keyboards, tap and hold the globe to bring up a menu of all your options.)

## 03 Make Emoji speak

For real fun, type in a bunch of Emoji symbols, select them all, and then tap the *Speak* button. You'll hear the often-entertaining names of each symbol read in sequence.




***Read Aloud*** *The Emoji keyboard lets you insert fun symbols. Your iOS device can speak the names of those symbols, too.*

***New Direction*** *Set yourself free from the confines of left-to-right-only panoramas.*

PICTURE PERFECT

## 04 Snap photos while shooting videos

You're using your iPhone 5 to capture a video of a magical moment, and you wish that you could snap a photo at the same time. Don't stop recording! Just tap the camera button, which appears on the screen in addition to the shutter button as you film. This function uses the iPhone's slightly less impressive video sensors instead of its true photo sensor, but the photos should still turn out pretty nicely. Note that this tip doesn't work on older iPhones.

## 05 Use reverse panorama

Speaking of tips that work only with certain iPhones, here's one that will matter just to folks who have the iPhone 4S or newer—in other words, an iPhone that supports taking panoramic photos.

Normally, the Camera app prompts you to take such photos from left to right. To reverse that direction, just tap once on the panorama guide to flip it to the opposite side of your screen.

# Siri's Here to Help

### 06 Use the 'in transit' cue

Ask Siri to help you find an address with a couple of extra words at the end, as in: "Give me directions to San Francisco International Airport via transit." In response, iOS will open the Maps app and display the routing pane, which lets you choose which third-party app you'd like to use to supply your directions. Attentive readers will know that Google Maps is included among these routing apps, which means that you can actually use this trick to get directions via Google Maps from Siri.

*If you regularly use Facebook or Twitter, Siri offers a bunch of helpful posting options.*

### 07 Choose Siri's audio options

If your automobile has a built-in speakerphone, or if you carry a Bluetooth accessory that has a microphone and speakers, you can choose which one Siri listens to for commands. When you click and hold the iPhone's *Home* button, you'll see a speaker icon to the right of the main Siri button. Tap it, and you'll get a menu of the various sound inputs that your iPhone can use; select the one you want, and Siri will listen using that microphone and, if possible, give feedback via those speakers.

***Movie Magic*** *Siri can help you find answers to all of your movie trivia questions.*

### 08 Make Siri your own IMDb

You probably already know that you can ask Siri what's playing at movie theaters near you. But Siri is also an expert on movies. You can ask about your favorite films, and you can make Siri do more of the legwork for you when, say, you're curious about which films specific actors have appeared in together. You might ask, "What movies star both Susan Sarandon and Tim Curry?" And Siri will reply with *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and *Rugrats In Paris.*

### 09 Get movie reviews

Not sure if a given movie is worth your time? Just ask Siri: "Is *Rugrats In Paris* any good?" Siri will reply with a review from Rotten Tomatoes.

### 10 Correct Siri

Sometimes Siri doesn't understand you quite accurately. Maybe you told it to call your friend "Aaron," but it thought you said "Erin." Fortunately, you can correct Siri's mistake; after Siri reports that it doesn't know what you're talking about, scroll up and find the speech bubble where Siri records what it thinks you said. Tap that bubble, and you'll find that you can edit what Siri heard and resubmit your request.

If you don't want to type out a long correction, you can use iOS's built-in dictation feature to enter your corrected text. Just tap the microphone in the keyboard, and speak your text aloud.

### 11 Post to social network

If you use Facebook or Twitter, Siri offers many helpful posting options. You can say "Post to Facebook, I love reading Lex and Dan's stuff at Macworld.com," or say "Write on my Wall, I love Siri." With Twitter, you can say "Tweet, I'm eating breakfast," along with other, similar variations.

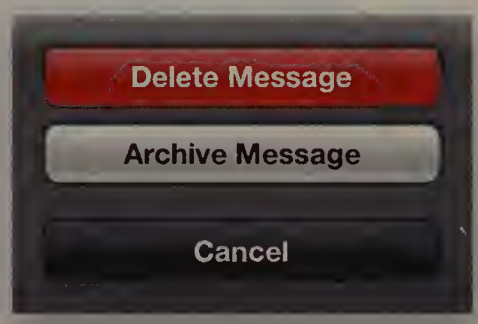
# In the Mail

### 12 Quickly add photos and videos to messages

Suppose that you snapped the perfect panorama and want to email it to your friend. You needn't begin from the Camera or Photos app. Instead, go to the Mail app and start composing your new message. Tap once in a blank section of the message to bring up the contextual menu, and then tap *Insert Photo or Video*. You'll summon the familiar photo-selecting screen.

### 13 Get back to drafts

Maybe you abandoned a message before tapping to send it. You don't have to navigate into the Mail app's mailbox hierarchy to find your Drafts folder. Rather, you can tap and hold the *New Message* button to bring up a menu listing your saved drafts.




***Easy Removal*** *To delete an archived message, tap and hold the Archive button and you'll see a Delete Message option.*

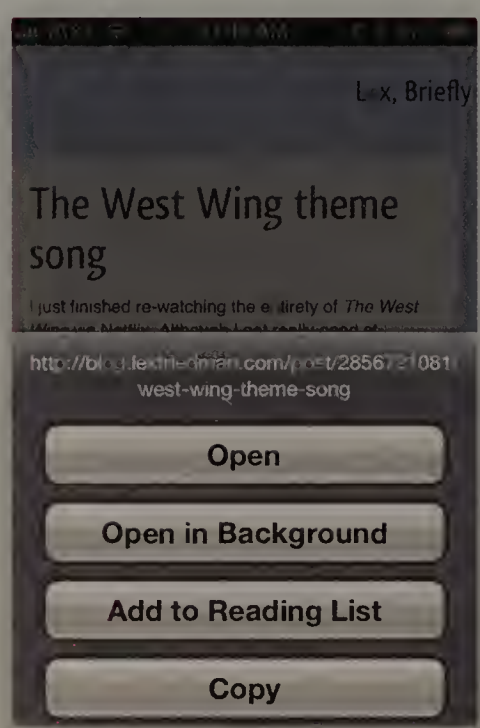
### 14 Archive messages

You're probably aware that you can archive messages from your Gmail account on iOS. But in addition, you can activate an archive option for messages to your iCloud email address. To do so, navigate to *Settings → Mail, Contacts, Calendar*, and tap your iCloud account. Tap the *Account* entry at the top, scroll down to the *Advanced* section, and tap your email address; swipe down until you find the Archive Messages switch. Slide it to *On*; then, to save the change, make sure to tap the *Done* button in the upper right corner twice. Now, all instances of the Delete command in Mail will be replaced by an Archive button.

### 15 Delete messages

If you do enable archiving as an option for your messages, that arrangement doesn't prevent you from deleting messages outright from your iPhone or iPad when you want to. All you have to do is tap and hold the *Archive* button, and you'll get a second option: Delete Message.

# SURF'S OUR TURF




### 16 Quickly access recent browsing history

In Mobile Safari, tap and hold the *Back* button to see a list of your recently visited pages. On the iPad, tap and hold the browser's *New Tab Plus* (+) button to peruse a list of recently closed tabs.

### 17 Open webpages in the background

Safari on the Mac makes it easy to open linked webpages in a new tab, so you needn't interrupt what you're reading just because you want to check out a few linked items.

***In the Background*** *Enjoy uninterrupted reading by enabling Safari's option to open linked webpages in a new browser.*

You get that same perk on iOS—though you need to enable it first. Visit *Settings → Safari → Open Links*, and choose the *In Background* option. Now you can tap and hold links in Safari to choose to open them in the background instead.

### 18 Browse the Web in full-screen mode

New in iOS 6 is an option to browse the Web in full-screen mode—at least when you are using your iPhone in landscape orientation. Doing so frees up the pixels that are otherwise occupied by Safari's location bar and tab bar.

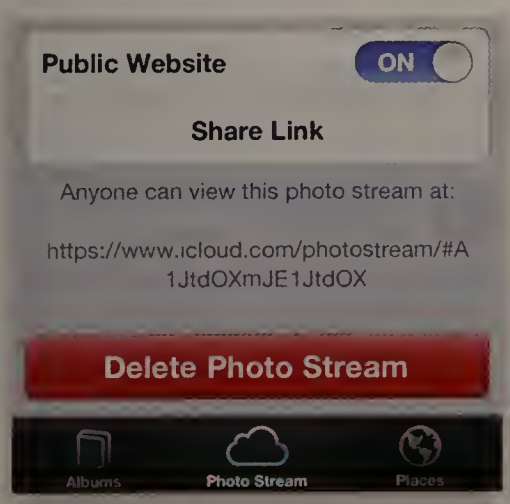
Just rotate your phone to the landscape mode, and then press the full-screen double-arrows at the bottom right corner.

*If you want to share photos with friends and family, you can establish Shared Photo Streams.*

# Stream of Photo Consciousness

## 19 Create Shared Photo Streams

In all likelihood, you are quite familiar with your own Photo Stream, which shares various devices between your iOS devices and Macs. But you can also create Shared Photo Streams, if you would like to share photos with your family, friends, and colleagues.




***Share All*** *You can share your Photo Streams with family, friends, and even the Web at large, if you're so inclined.*

Open *Photos* and tap the *Photo Stream* button in the toolbar. In the upper left corner is a plus (+) button; tap that and enter a name for your shared stream, along with a list of people you'd like to invite. You can add photos from your existing photo albums or Camera Roll by tapping the *Share* button and selecting Photo Stream, or by tapping *Edit* while viewing your shared stream and then tapping the *Add* button that appears at the bottom.

Note that while the people you've shared the photo stream with can write comments on or "like" your photos, they cannot add their own photos to the stream.

## 20 Make Shared Photo Streams public

One disadvantage of Shared Photo Streams is that they're accessible only to users who have iOS devices running iOS 6 or later or on Macs that are running Mountain Lion. So if you want especially to share those photos with Mom (who's using an original iPad) or Dad (who's using a Windows laptop), you should instead make your stream available via a public website.

You can do this when you create a Shared Photo Stream by tapping the *Public Website* slider. After you have made a stream, you can find that same option by tapping the blue arrow next to the Shared Photo Stream in your iPhone's Photos app. This will generate an iCloud.com link to the stream; be aware that the resulting destination is public, and that anyone who has the URL can access it, though it's not something that people are likely to stumble across. You can tap the *Share Link* button to send the link via email, an iMessage, or a Facebook or Twitter post; or just copy it to the clipboard.

# Fun With Settings

### 21 Control privacy

You probably don't want your personal data to be accessible to every app that asks, and iOS is here to give you the fine-grained control that you crave. Under the Privacy section of Settings, you can not only adjust which apps have access to your location, but also prevent them from accessing your contacts, calendars, reminders, photos, and Bluetooth sharing. Plus, if you use Twitter or Facebook, you can decide which of your apps can log in with your credentials. Just tap the appropriate section for any of these items, and slide the switch for the selected app to *Off*.

### 22 Apply restrictions

Go to *General* and then *Restrictions*. You'll see a prompt to enter a passcode. Do so, and you can then select features that you'd like to lock down on your iOS device. If you're planning to hand the iPhone off to Junior, who has a habit of deleting your apps, you can specifically disable that capability. You can also prevent access to the iTunes Store, Safari, and more.

### 23 Activate Guided Access

And while we're talking about limiting what your iOS device can do, let's get into Guided Access, which you turn on under *General* → *Accessibility*. Once you've enabled the feature, go into any other app and triple-click the *Home* button to enter Guided Access. Now, if you want, you can black out certain regions of the current app's interface. Say, for example, that the game your kid will play has an omnipresent Settings button. You can trace a circle around that button, and that section of the app will ignore any taps. The other key feature of Guided Access is that it can disable the Home button. To exit an app in Guided Access mode, triple-click the *Home* button, and provide your passcode.

### 24 Limit advertiser tracking

Under General, tap *About*, and then tap *Advertising*. On the screen that appears, you'll find two options. The first one, Limit Ad Tracking, provides an indicator to Internet advertisers that you don't want them to track which ads you've viewed and engaged with, so they can show you ads that they think may be better suited to you.

The second option on this screen is a button for resetting your advertising identifier. A new creation of Apple's in iOS 6, it's meant to be an anonymized tracker that advertisers can use to recognize your interest when showing their ads in apps. Apple doesn't yet require that in-app ads use the identifier, but the company says that one day it will. If you start seeing in-app ads that seem to know you too well, you can reset your advertising identifier here to start from scratch.

> *Don't forget that you can control what content iCloud stores for you in your online backup.*

### 25 Manage storage

Because iOS storage space isn't expandable, you need to pay attention to what's gobbling up the available gigabytes on your device. Here's how. Go to *General* → *Usage* in Settings, and wait for a moment as iOS calculates which apps are using the most space.

Often, Music and Photos & Camera are the two biggest offenders. If you use a media service like iTunes Match, you can safely delete the Music cache on your device to free up space. If you sync your device with your Mac to back up photos and videos, you can delete those too. You'll also spot the apps that you use, sorted with the most storage-intensive ones at the top. If you see any that you rarely use and that take up a ton of space, tap them in the list, and then tap *Delete App* to remove them.

***Out of Reach*** *The Guided Access feature allows you to block out parts of an app's interface, disabling any taps made there.*

### 26 Manage iCloud backup

While we're on the theme of saving space, don't forget that you can control what iCloud stores for you in your online backup—especially if you are just using the free 5GB allotment that Apple offers. You can find instructions at macworld.com/a/2010911.

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# Phones, Texts, and Such

## 27 Customize iMessage auto-replies

Some moments aren't the right time for a phone call. You could let calls you don't want to take just go to voicemail, but sometimes you want to explain why you're not picking up. iOS 6 lets you quickly respond to a call with a text message. Just swipe upward on the phone icon that appears next to the unlock slider and choose *Reply with Message*.

By default, you'll receive a set of three canned options, along with a button that lets you enter a custom text. However, you can also customize those canned messages, by going to *Settings* → *Phone* → *Reply with Message*.

## 28 Create custom ringtones in GarageBand

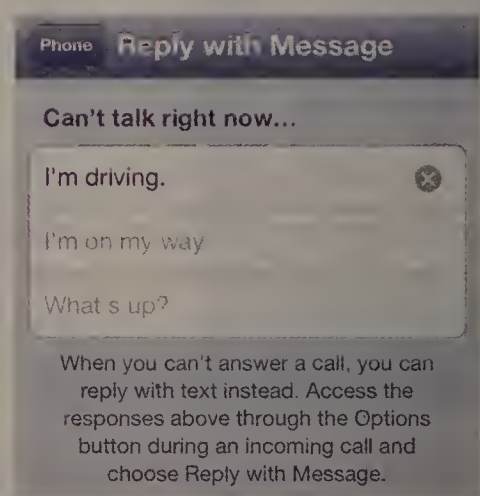
It's true: You can create and save custom ringtones for your iPhone—by using your iPhone. See go.macworld.com/customtones.

## 29 Custom vibrations for text and ringtones

Want to know who is calling you without ever taking your phone out of your pocket? It's easy. Not only can you assign a custom ringtone or text tone to a specific contact, you can even give them a custom vibration pattern.

Open *Phone* or *Contacts*, select a contact, and then tap the *Edit* button on the top right corner. Scroll down to find the ringtone field; below it is a vibration field. Tap that, and you'll see an assortment of built-in vibration patterns available for you to choose from. Farther down, though, you'll find the option to add a custom pattern. To do this, Tap *Create New Vibration*, and then tap the screen to create your own rhythm. When you're satisfied (tap the *Play* button to test what it will feel like), tap *Save* to set the pattern.

If that's still not enough, you can go back to your contact record and assign a custom vibration pattern for text messages, as well.




***Quick Reply*** *You can customize three (or fewer) automatic messages to reply to your incoming phone calls.*

***Single Download*** *We welcome the return of individual download buttons for iTunes Match tracks stored in iCloud.*

# WAIT, THERE'S MORE

## 30 Get swipable map directions

If you'd like to get a preview of your route, tap your destination and choose *Directions to Here*. Then, instead of using Current Location, enter your address manually and tap *Route*. Once you've chosen your route and tapped *Start*, you'll be able to swipe through the instructions and see exactly which turns Maps wants you to take. (It's the same way you got directions back in iOS 5.)

## 31 Set reminders for specific locations

When you create a reminder, tap it and turn on *Remind Me at a Location*. Reminders will populate your current address—tap that and you'll get options, including a text box to enter a custom address in.

## 32 Download a single track from iTunes Match

As of iOS 6.1, Apple has restored the ability of iTunes Match users to download any individual track from the cloud to an iOS device—just tap the cloud download icon next to the entry.

## 33 Control music over USB

iOS 6.1 improved matters, and—finally—the Music app now remains accessible even when you've plugged your iPhone into a USB playthrough device that lacks the Made for iPhone distinction.

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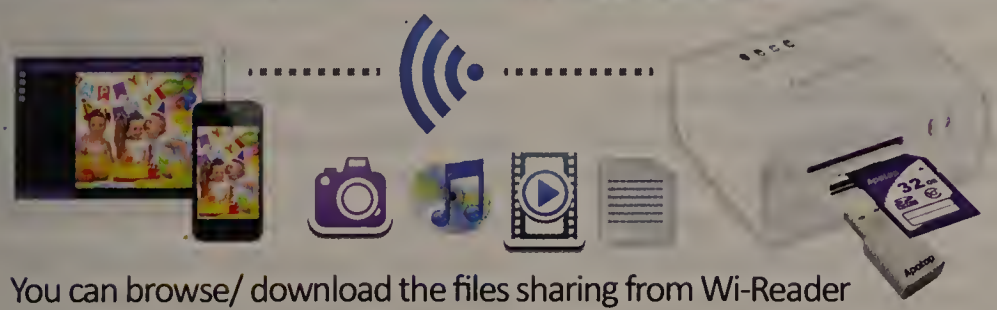
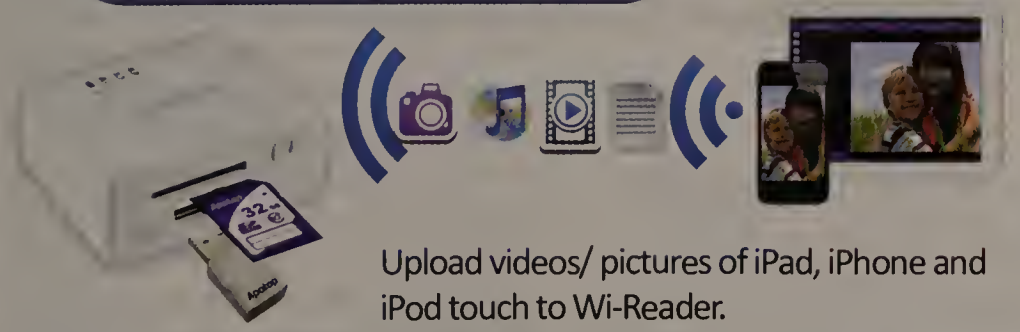


You can browse/ download the files sharing from Wi-Reader wirelessly through iPad, iPhone and iPod touch.

### Upload data as you wish.



Upload videos/ pictures of iPad, iPhone and iPod touch to Wi-Reader.

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# Working Mac

Tips, Tricks, and Tools to Make You and Your Mac More Productive

## Emergency Backups You Didn't Know You Had

Unintentional data duplicates could save the day.

**BY SCHOLLE SAWYER McFARLAND**

Your hard drive churns. Every click sets off a spinning beach ball. Disk Utility doles out the bad news. When your hard drive's end is near, your best hope is a good backup. Of course it is. But what if you don't have a backup? Or what if you thought you had a backup and it failed? At this point, someone will say, knowingly: "You should have had *redundant* backups." Shoulda, woulda, coulda. You shoulda—you didn't. So, what now?

Keep calm and consider your situation. The fact is, intentionally or not, you probably do have backups of at least some of your data.

### Email Messages

Do you use a Web- or IMAP-based service for your email? (For more, see "How to Convert a POP Email Account to IMAP," at go.macworld.com/poptoimap.) If so, then you don't need to worry about losing your email messages, because they're safely stored on a server. When you repair or replace your failing Mac, all you'll need to do is enter the information for your IMAP email accounts in your email client, or open a Web browser if you use webmail, and the messages will download.

### Data You've Synced With iCloud

Have you been using Apple's iCloud (www.icloud.com) to sync your email, calendars, Safari bookmarks, reminders, or notes? If so, then you needn't fret—you can restore that information. On your new or repaired computer, launch System Preferences and choose *iCloud*. Sign in to your iCloud account and select the relevant categories (*Contacts, Safari,* and *Calendars & Reminders*). Your information should appear.

> If you've been using an up-to-date version of Dropbox, it's likely the service has also been backing up your photos automatically.

### Files in the Cloud

Cloud-based services such as Dropbox (www.dropbox.com) and Google Docs (www.google.com/docs) make it possible for you to see and access your documents no matter what computer you're using. Students, for instance, might store papers in Dropbox for quick access through a Web browser at school. Or your business may use Google Docs to make it easy for coworkers to collaborate. These files remain exactly where you left them in the cloud; you simply sign back in to the account.

ILLUSTRATION BY MATTHEW HOLLISTER

If you've been using an up-to-date version of Dropbox, it's likely the service has also been backing up your photos automatically whenever you connect a USB camera, iOS device, or memory card (provided that you haven't turned down its request to do this). Download a copy of Dropbox's mobile app (www.dropbox.com/mobile) to your iPhone, iPad, or other mobile device and check.

### iTunes Purchases

If you bought most of your music through iTunes, it's easy to restore your library. First, make sure that you're signed in to iTunes with the account you used to purchase your media. Now click the *iTunes Store* button in the top-right of the iTunes window, and click the *Purchased* link that appears below on the right side. In the resulting screen, click the *Music* tab and then the *All Songs* entry. The music you've bought will appear in a list. Click the *Download All* button to download your past music purchases. Using this same technique, you can also redownload purchased movies, TV shows, TV seasons, and books from iTunes.

If you subscribe to the $25-per-year iTunes Match service (see "iTunes Match: What You Need to Know" at go.macworld.com/itunesmatchfaq), then you can download any music that you've either matched or uploaded.

### Anything on Your iPhone

You might be carrying copies of important data right in the palm of your hand. At the very least, your iPhone probably contains a chunk of your photo and music library.

**Your photos:** Your photos will download automatically when you connect your iPhone to the new computer.

**Ripped music:** If you spent hours ripping CDs to your iTunes library and the songs remain on your phone, there's hope. Apple doesn't make it easy to restore music from your iPhone to your Mac, but it is possible. With a tool such as Ecamm Network's $30 PhoneView (www.ecamm.com), you can extract data and media from your iOS device.

Just jack in your device, fire up PhoneView, select the kind of media you want to extract, and—if it's music, for example—copy the items directly to your iTunes library by clicking *Send To iTunes*.

**Calendars and contacts:** What if you don't use iCloud, but you have synced your calendars and contacts to your still-functioning iPhone? In that case, create an iCloud account if you don't currently have one, sign in to it, and ask your iPhone to sync your calendars and contacts with iCloud. When you later want that data on your Mac, create an iCloud account on the computer and configure iCloud to sync calendars and contacts, and your data will appear on your Mac in short order.

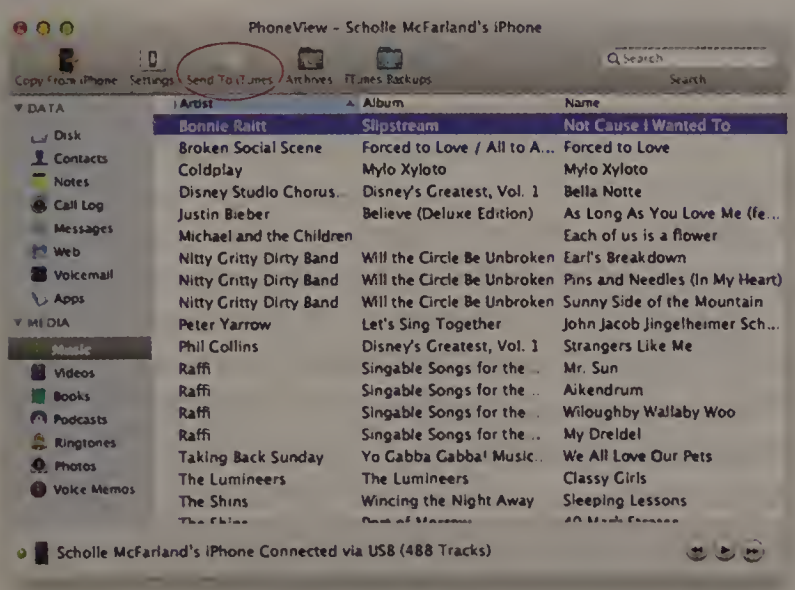
**Cloud Coverage** If you've used Apple's iCloud, you can restore any data you synced after you get your Mac working again.

### Camera Cards

Do you delete images from your camera card on a regular basis? If the answer is no, today you're in luck. Keep those memory cards available so that you can download the images to your new or repaired computer.

### Thinking About Next Time

One serious hard-drive failure is usually enough to scare a Mac user straight. If you're ready now, be sure to read "Backup Basics: The Quick, Something-Is-Better-Than-Nothing Backup System" at go.macworld.com/backupbasics.




**Rescuing Files From Your iPhone** Apple doesn't make it easy to restore music and other files from your phone to your Mac, but it is possible with an app like Ecamm Network's PhoneView.

**Bigger Fonts in Apple Apps** The Fonts panel, which many Apple applications use, lets you choose a suitable font and font size for your eyes.

# Stop Squinting at the Screen

How to make text bigger in your browser, email, text editor, and more.

BY KIRK McELHEARN

When you're on the other side of 50, as I am, you become less concerned about how fast your Mac is, and more interested in how well you can see the text. Whether your eyes are aging, your younger eyes need glasses, or someone you're providing computer support to could use a bit of help in seeing the screen, no one should have to squint when surfing the Web, reading email, or writing documents. To save yourself from eyestrain, follow a few key techniques to increase the font size in applications where easy-to-see text makes the biggest difference.

## Text Editing

Most applications that let you compose text also let you adjust how you view your fonts on screen. It's a good idea to increase the font size by a few points if you use corrective lenses—you might not realize that you're squinting as you read.

**Zoom in:** When you need to view text in a bigger font in order to read it but you don't necessarily need to print the text out at that size, zooming is your best option. In Microsoft Word, choose *View → Zoom* and choose from the options in the 'Zoom to' section. You can enter a custom zoom size—such as 150%—in the Percent field at the bottom. Apple's Pages offers a similar set of options. Choose a zoom percentage from the pop-up menu at the bottom of your document window. Or, press ⌘-right angle bracket (>) to zoom in or ⌘-left angle bracket (<) to zoom out.

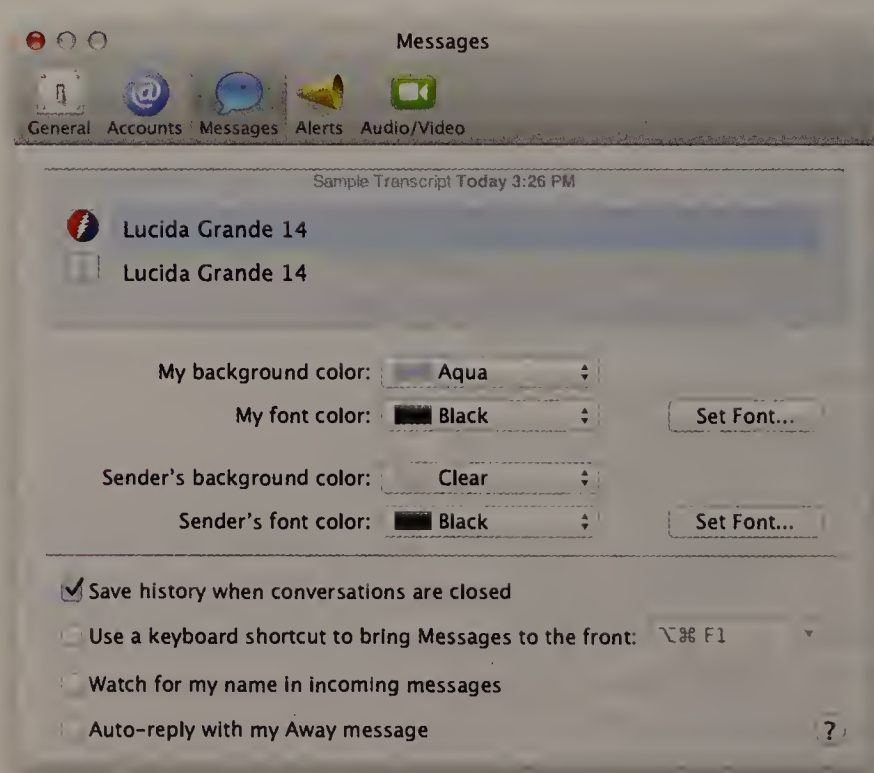
**Increase the font size:** In Apple apps such as Pages and TextEdit, pressing ⌘-T calls up a Fonts panel. Word and other text-heavy programs have a dedicated Font or Format menu. In Word, choose *Format → Font*. There, you can choose the font and size you find most comfortable to work with.

If you'd rather not fiddle with font size repeatedly, change the defaults. In Word, for example, adjust your settings in the Font window and then click the *Default* button at the bottom. In TextEdit, choose *TextEdit → Preferences* and tweak the 'Plain text font' and 'Rich text font' settings.

## Web Browsing

Many applications let you use the ⌘-plus (+) shortcut to increase font size. If you use Apple's Safari or Mozilla's Firefox as your browser, for example, you can press that keyboard shortcut—or, alternatively, choose *View → Zoom In*—at any time. If the fonts appear too large on certain pages, pressing ⌘-minus (–) makes them one notch smaller. Other programs that display text use the ⌘-plus shortcut as well, so try it if you ever need to make text bigger in a particular application.

**Safari settings:** As an alternative approach in Safari, select *Safari → Preferences* and click the *Advanced* tab. Under




**Easier-to-Read Messages** Customize the font, font size, and background color for Messages.

Accessibility, select *Never use font sizes smaller than* and adjust the font size to a size that's comfortable for your eyes.

**Trackpad tips:** In Safari, you can also zoom in to increase the size of the entire webpage. If you use a trackpad, you can pinch out to zoom in, and pinch in to zoom back out. This technique works in some other applications too. (If it doesn't work for you, select *Zoom In* or *Zoom Out* in the Scroll & Zoom section of System Preferences' Trackpad pane.) In addition, you can double-tap with two fingers to get a quick zoom in Safari; double-tapping again zooms out. (You can also find this setting in the Trackpad preference pane.)

### A More Readable Finder

To make it easier to see folder and file names in Finder windows, press ⌘-J, or choose *View → Show View Options*, when a Finder window is visible. Select *Text Size*, and you'll get a pop-up menu that lets you choose a font size from 10-point to 16-point. Click *Use as Defaults* to apply this new font size to all the windows in the current view. Note that you'll have to make this change for each Finder view (Icon, List, Column, and/or Cover Flow) separately.

### Easy-to-See Sidebars

Sidebars are important because they give you a list of items you may want to use often, such as folders in the Finder.

**iTunes and iPhoto:** In iTunes and iPhoto, go into the programs' preferences to change the sidebar text size. In iTunes' General preferences, select *Use large text for list views*. And in iPhoto's Appearance preferences, choose *Source Text → Large*. (The two iPhoto text options available are Large and Small—though they might be better characterized as Medium and Tiny.)

**The Finder:** To change the size of items in the Finder's sidebar, launch System Preferences, and then click the *General* icon. In the 'Sidebar icon size' setting, you can specify *Small*, *Medium*, or *Large*. This setting affects not only the Finder's icons, but also the size of the icons' associated text. Curiously, even though this setting changes the same items in the sidebar in Apple's Mail, it doesn't affect other Apple apps.

**Sidebars You Can See** The three sizes available for Finder sidebar icons also affect the size of the associated labels.

### Mail and Messages

Other apps offer font and size settings too. In Apple's Mail, go to *Mail → Preferences → Fonts & Colors* to choose a different font and size for the message list, for messages themselves, and for any fixed-width text.

Apple's Messages lets you change the font and size for incoming and outgoing messages independently. Go to *Messages → Preferences*, select *Messages*, and click the *Set Font* button next to each of the two background-color sections.

### Zoom Everything

In System Preferences' Accessibility pane, you can turn on zooming so that it affects your entire display. Click the *Zoom* icon in the sidebar of that preference pane, and check either or both *Use keyboard shortcuts to zoom* and *Use scroll gesture with modifier keys to zoom*. I often use the scrolling option—which on a trackpad is a two-finger dragging gesture—to get a closer look at things that I can't zoom in on any other way, such as text that appears within graphics on webpages.

> It's a good idea to increase the font size by a few points if you use corrective lenses—you might not realize that you're squinting.

Finally, if you have a Mac that permits you to change the display resolution, you might want to go that route. The Displays preference pane lets you scale your display. Try it and find out if you can see enough on your screen after magnifying its scale. This alteration changes the number of pixels on the screen and, therefore, affects the size of text in the menu bar, menu items, and so on.

Although font-size settings are limited to certain apps, it's good to know where you can make this change. Set up your most-used apps appropriately, and your eyes will thank you for making them work a bit less.

# Give Remote Presentations via Messages

An overlooked feature of OS X's messaging app lets you share Keynote presentations.

BY CHRISTOPHER BREEN

Few people know you can share a Keynote presentation with a remote user via the Messages application. This overlooked OS X feature can prove helpful for online meetings and instruction.

**Use the same service:** To give it a try, you will need a copy of Apple's Keynote application, as well as a Keynote presentation. You can't share presentations and files if you and the other person are using different messaging services, however, so be sure that each participant is on Apple's iCloud (www.icloud.com), for example, or on AIM (www.aim.com).

**Send an invitation:** To begin, launch Messages and select someone in your Buddy List to share your presentation with. From the *Buddies* menu choose *Invite to Video Chat*. This action will send an invitation. Once your recipient accepts it, you can proceed.

**Share your presentation:** To initiate sharing, simply drag a presentation into the lower portion of the video window. When you do, Keynote will launch on your Mac, and you'll see a presentation window containing the presentation's controls. By default, the image that appears in this window is what the person you're presenting to sees, along with your image in the bottom-left corner. The preview you see is the same presentation as it appears on that person's screen, as well as the image from their camera.

**Start the show:** Just move through the presentation by clicking in the controller window or by using the controller's arrow keys. When you want to stop the presentation, click the controller window's X to close the presentation. You'll return to your video chat. To quit that session, click the chat window's red *Close* button.

There you have it—an easy way to give a Keynote presentation to remote users.

ILLUSTRATION BY MATTHEW HOLLISTER

## PowerBag's Business Class Pack

Hate looking for outlets in airports? PowerBag's $180 Business Class Pack (go.macworld.com/pbag) is a backpack with a built-in battery that lets road warriors recharge electronics on the go. Unzip the bag's frontmost pocket, and you'll discover three permanently attached cables: a 30-pin dock-connector cable, a Micro-USB cable, and a Mini-USB cable. The battery's two USB outputs offer up to 5 volts, 800 milliamps combined. The dock connector has enough juice to charge an iPhone or iPod, but not an iPad. If you want to charge an iPad or fast-charge an iPhone 5, you'll need to turn to the standard USB port built into the battery itself—and provide your own cable. The company says the battery can charge a smartphone four times over; I charged my iPad and my iPhone overnight with a full charge of the bag's battery. The Business Class Pack also works perfectly well as a backpack, fitting 15-inch and smaller notebooks nicely and offering a good assortment of pockets and pouches. Not surprisingly, though, the bag is a bit heavy—it weighs 3.11 pounds. I found the Business Class Pack to be a clever way to avoid the constant crowds at airport charging stations. It made my traveling just a little easier.—LEX FRIEDMAN

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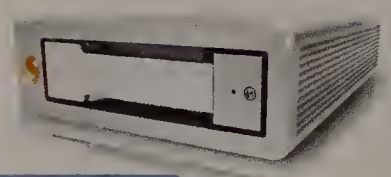
# Reviews

Hardware and Software for All Your Business Needs



Hardware

## CalDigit AV Pro

♦♦♦♦; $339 (3TB drive), $469 (240GB SSD); CalDigit; www.caldigit.com

CalDigit's AV Pro external storage device is designed to help creative professionals streamline their workflow. You can choose from two models: one holding a 3.5-inch hard drive and one containing a 2.5-inch solid-state drive. With both models, you can easily replace the drive mechanism if you need to.

We tested a 240GB SSD unit and a 3TB hard-drive model, and both performed impressively. The transfer rates for both drives over the FireWire 800 interface were in the 82-to-88-MBps range. But over speedier USB 3.0, the SSD AV Pro yielded faster rates, as expected. In our AJA System Test, the SSD model posted a write speed of 243.6 MBps and a read speed of 266.3 MBps, while the hard-drive model scored a write speed of 196.6 MBps and a read speed of 200.4 MBps. In our test requiring it to transfer a 10GB folder, the SSD AV Pro yielded a write speed of 229.3 MBps and a read speed of 226.4 MBps, while the hard-drive model wrote the same folder at 189.4 MBps and read it at 192.2 MBps.

The AV Pro comes with software for monitoring the drive's activity and managing its contents. And an iOS app lets you monitor performance, perform diagnostics, and contact tech support.

Media professionals in need of a speedy external drive for handling a mass of files may find the AV Pro to be a perfect fit. It's easy to use straight out of the box. And if you fill up a drive, you can quickly and easily replace it with a fresh one.—KEÁN BARTELMAN

## HP Officejet Pro X576dw

♦♦♦♦; $800; Hewlett-Packard; www.hp.com

HP's Officejet Pro X576dw color inkjet MFP aims to compete with business color lasers by offering competitive print speed and quality, and supercheap consumables.

Text and mixed monochrome pages printed at an aggregate 22.6 pages per minute on the PC (using PCL6) and 24.9 ppm (using Postscript) on the Mac. Color 4-by-6-inch photos flew out at 6 ppm on plain paper and about 2 ppm on glossy paper.

The output quality may fall a dot or two short of laser-black and laser-sharp, but you'd have to be very picky to care about the difference.

In addition, this MFP boasts a low cost per page: A four-color page works out to 6.8 cents per page, while black is 1.3 cents. It's impossible to know whether many laser lovers will give the Officejet Pro X576dw a chance, but if any inkjet deserves a fair hearing, it's this one.—JON L. JACOBI AND MELISSA RIOFRIO

## Monoprice 27" IPS LED CrystalPro Monitor WQHD

♦♦♦½; $391; Monoprice; www.monoprice.com

Apple's $1000 Thunderbolt Display is too pricey for many people, especially if you don't need its extra ports. Monoprice hopes to shake up the display market by offering its 27-inch IPS LED CrystalPro monitor for under $400. However, to achieve those savings, Monoprice had to cut some corners.

Both monitors use LG's glossy 2560-by-1440 LED-backlit, 27-inch IPS LCD panel, and both have similar viewing angles and display very legible text even at small point sizes. The Apple display's color temperature was considerably cooler, though, and photos had more depth. The CrystalPro's fit and finish are evidence of corners cut: The black plastic case is generic looking, with a flimsy stand. And of the seven buttons at the bottom, two do nothing. No on-screen menus show you where on the scale from low to high brightness or volume is set; you just press the appropriate button until the display looks or sounds good. And the monitor's speakers sound tinny compared with the Thunderbolt Display's speakers.

The CrystalPro has only a DVI port—no DisplayPort, HDMI, or USB. If you can do without those, as well as Thunderbolt and ethernet, and you don't mind the display's other limitations, you'll enjoy performance that matches that of pricier displays.—JAMES GALBRAITH

Software

## Snapz Pro X 2.5.1

♦♦♦½; $69; Ambrosia Software; www.ambrosiasw.com

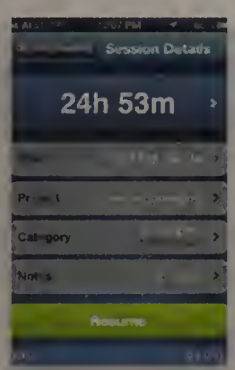
At one time or another, you might be asked to grab a screenshot to help diagnose a software problem, or you may just want to share an amusing part of a webpage or Facebook post. OS X provides free ways to grab a screenshot—for example, you can capture your whole screen by pressing ⌘-<Shift>-3. But to capture a video of your screen or to show what keys you're pressing, you need an app like the venerable Snapz Pro X. This program has passionate followers, but with this new version it shows its age, offering no major new features.

Meanwhile, less-expensive competitors, such as Techsmith's $50 SnagIt and Global Delight's $30 Voila, have come along. Those two applications offer features such as image editing and the ability to capture scrolling webpages and even parts of pages, such as toolbars and buttons.

Snapz Pro still gets the basic job done, but you can find fuller-featured, more-affordable alternatives.—TOM NEGRINO

## OfficeTime 1.9

♦♦♦½; $47; OfficeTime Software; www.officetime.net




OfficeTime is a basic yet useful time tracking and invoicing program that lets you use your Mac or iOS device to gather time spent on a project. You can easily sync the data between devices and then invoice your customers.

The program requires some setup: You must first create categories and projects and set hourly rates. The app comes with a small set of predefined categories that you can add to. When you set up a new project, you give it a name and an ID, link it to a specific client, choose a default category, and then start timing your project. You can use OS X's Contacts app to add contacts to an invoice, but I found this feature a bit clunky. And the app's reporting functions, though useful, are rudimentary.

OfficeTime is good, but it isn't up to the level of similar apps that offer more and cost less.—JEFFERY BATTERSBY

# Top Products

YOUR GUIDE TO THE BEST HARDWARE WE'VE TESTED

## HARD DRIVES
### Desktop

| PRODUCT | RATING | PRICE [1] | TYPE | MORE INFO |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **G-RAID With Thunderbolt** www.g-technology.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $715 (8TB) | Quad interface | go.macworld.com/graid |
| **LaCie d2 Quadra USB 3.0** (pictured) www.lacie.com | ♦♦♦♦½ | $190 (2TB) | USB 3.0 | go.macworld.com/lacie |
| **My Book VelocIRaptor Duo** www.wdc.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $769 (2TB) | Thunderbolt | go.macworld.com/velociraptor |

## HARD DRIVES
### Portable

| PRODUCT | RATING | PRICE [1] | TYPE | MORE INFO |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **IoSafe Rugged Portable SSD** (pictured) www.iosafe.com | ♦♦♦♦½ | $500 (120GB) | Single interface | go.macworld.com/iosafe |
| **LaCie Rugged USB3 Thunderbolt SSD** www.lacie.com | ♦♦♦♦½ | $203 (120GB) | Dual interface | go.macworld.com/thunderbolt |
| **My Passport Essential** www.wdc.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $99 (500GB) | Dual interface | go.macworld.com/mypassport |

## INPUT DEVICES
### Keyboards, Mice, and More

| PRODUCT | RATING | PRICE [1] | TYPE | MORE INFO |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Intuos5 Pen Tablet** intuos.wacom.com | ♦♦♦♦½ | $324 (medium) | Pen tablet | go.macworld.com/intuos5 |
| **Magic Trackpad** www.apple.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $69 | Trackpad | go.macworld.com/trackpad |
| **Wireless Solar Keyboard K760** (pictured) www.logitech.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $56 | Keyboard | go.macworld.com/k760 |

## PRINTERS
### Laser and Inkjet

| PRODUCT | RATING | PRICE [1] | TYPE | MORE INFO |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **C748de** www.lexmark.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $1314 | Laser | go.macworld.com/c748de |
| **5130cdn** (pictured) www.dell.com | ♦♦♦♦½ | $1516 | Color laser | go.macworld.com/5130cdn |
| **WorkForce Pro WP-4590** www.epson.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $322 | Color Inkjet | go.macworld.com/workforce |

## PRINTERS
### Multifunction

| PRODUCT | RATING | PRICE [1] | TYPE | MORE INFO |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OfficeEdge Pro5500** (pictured) www.lexmark.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $352 | Inkjet | go.macworld.com/pro5500 |
| **Officejet Pro X576dw** www.hp.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $799 | Inkjet | go.macworld.com/ojx576dw |
| **WorkForce WF-3540 All-In-One** www.epson.com | ♦♦♦ | $130 | Inkjet | go.macworld.com/wf3540 |

[1] All prices are the best current prices taken from a PriceGrabber survey of retailers at press time.

# Playlist

Everything You Need to Know About iPods, iTunes, and Mac-Based Entertainment

## Ask the iTunes Guy

All about device syncing, smart playlists, audiobooks, and more.

**BY KIRK McELHEARN**

Q&A In this installment of *Ask the iTunes Guy*, I discuss a few iTunes 11 quirks, iTunes Match issues, and a number of common problems.

**Q: I have updated to iTunes 11. Where is the button that gives information about my device? And where did the photos sync option go?**

A: In iTunes 10 and earlier, iOS devices appeared in a sidebar at the left. iTunes 11 removes this sidebar by default, but you can restore it by choosing *View → Show Sidebar*, or by pressing ⌘-<Option>-S.

If you don't display the sidebar, look at the top right of the iTunes window for either a button showing the name of your device or one that reads, say, '2 Devices', if you have two connected. Click that button to access your device's settings.

**Q: Why are some iTunes audiobooks longer than others? Some versions of *The Count of Monte Cristo* are 50 hours while others are 50 minutes.**

A: Audiobooks come in two flavors: abridged and unabridged. To some people, however, abridged books are a heresy. *The Count of Monte Cristo* is a good example: In a paperback edition in the original French, it's about 1500 pages, and cutting out bits and pieces (or entire chapters) would ruin the story.

> If you have two copies of a song—on an original album and on a greatest-hits album—iTunes may match only the first one it finds, and tell you that the other is a duplicate.

Abridged books may work for nonfiction, but for novels I would stick with unabridged books. They're more expensive, but you'll get the entire story.

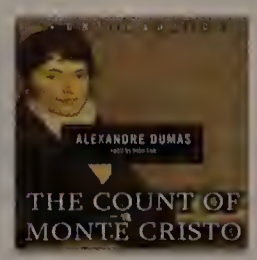
**Q: How can I make a list of all the books contained in my iTunes library? When I select Books in my library and then choose Export by right-clicking, iTunes produces a dialog box for saving my file as books.txt. But when I look in that file, it is empty.**

A: Ordinarily, you can make a list of the contents of any of your libraries (Music, Books, Movies, and so on). First, click a library to display its contents. Choose *File → Library → Export Playlist*, and then choose the name of the file, its location, and its type. You can then import this file into a spreadsheet or database program, which will allow you to sort the content.

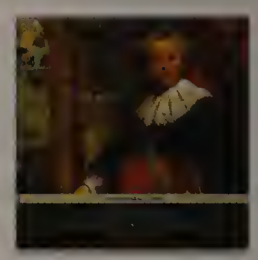
When you do so for books, however, iTunes adds only audiobooks to the list, since it doesn't regard ebooks as being part of the "playlist." To get a list of ebooks, select them all (in your Books library, press ⌘-A) and copy them (⌘-C). If you then paste this selection into Excel, or into a text editor—Apple's TextEdit must be in Plain Text mode, not Rich Text—you'll get a list. (If you paste it into programs that are not in Plain Text mode, you'll paste the actual files, which you don't want to do.)

**Q: I have no hearing in my right ear. Any suggestions for ensuring that my music is monaural so that all of it comes to the one ear that's listening?**

A: If you match your music with iTunes Match, the downloaded files will be in stereo. With an iOS device, however, it's



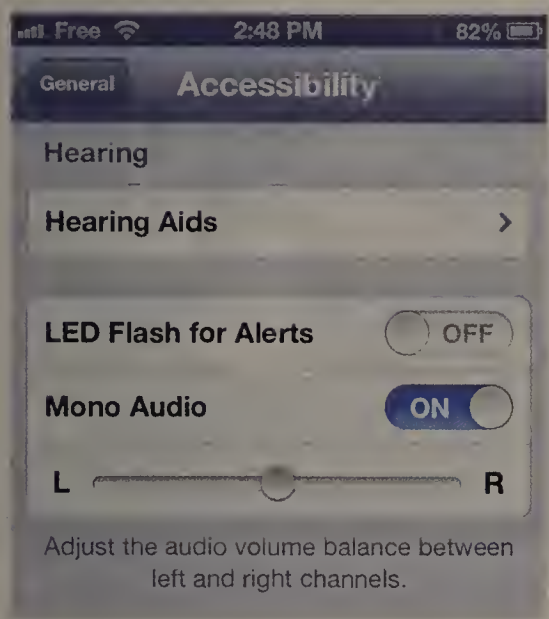

The Count of Monte Cristo (Unabridged)...
Alexandre Dumas
$41.95



The Count of Monte Cristo
Alexandre Dumas
$21.95

**Complete Works** Look for 'Unabridged' if you want to buy a full, uncut audiobook.

ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL SLACK




**Quick Adjustment** Your iOS device can play back audio in mono instead of stereo.

easy to get around this. Go to *Settings → General → Accessibility*, then to the *Hearing* section. Tap the Mono Audio slider to move it to the *On* position.

On a Mac, go to System Preferences, and click *Accessibility,* then the *Audio* icon. Check *Play stereo audio as mono.*

**Q: I believe I used to see at the bottom of the iTunes window the number of songs and their combined play time. How can I get this back?**

A: iTunes 11 turns the status bar off by default. Just choose *View → Show Status Bar*. This displays the total number of files, the time, and the size of the items displayed or, if you have selected one or more items, of the selection.

**Q: After a month or so, my smart playlists get stale. Can I get them to refresh periodically and automatically with all new songs that fit the criteria?**

A: I don't know of a way to do so automatically, but it's easy to do so manually. Select all the tracks in a playlist—click one track, then press ⌘-A—and press the <Delete> key. The tracks will disappear from the playlist, and iTunes will repopulate it using the conditions you set for it.

Or perhaps you want to use live updating, so that playlists change as you play them. If you select *Live updating* in the smart playlist window, iTunes will constantly update the playlist according to the tracks' metadata. You'd generally use this for playlists that have a 'Plays' or 'Last Played' condition; for example, you might make a playlist of songs by a certain artist, or from a specific genre, but only those you haven't heard in the past month.

**Q: Since upgrading to iTunes 11, I find that Plays and the Last Played date don't change when I play songs. Do you have any ideas?**

A: Many users have encountered this problem, though it hasn't happened to me. This quirk is especially annoying if you create smart playlists as I explained above. I have to assume that it's a bug, and hope that it will be fixed soon. Regardless, you can't alter any settings or preferences to address this issue.

**Q: My husband, my children, and I all use the same iTunes account. I have a me.com email address. Is it possible to have a different password for my email so that I can keep it private?**

A: Alas, no. Although you could create an iTunes account with a different Apple ID, since you already have one it would create problems when your children wanted to access the iTunes Store, update apps, and so on. This is one of the drawbacks of Apple's ID system: You use your Apple ID for all sorts of things. The best you can do is change your password and not give the new password to your children.

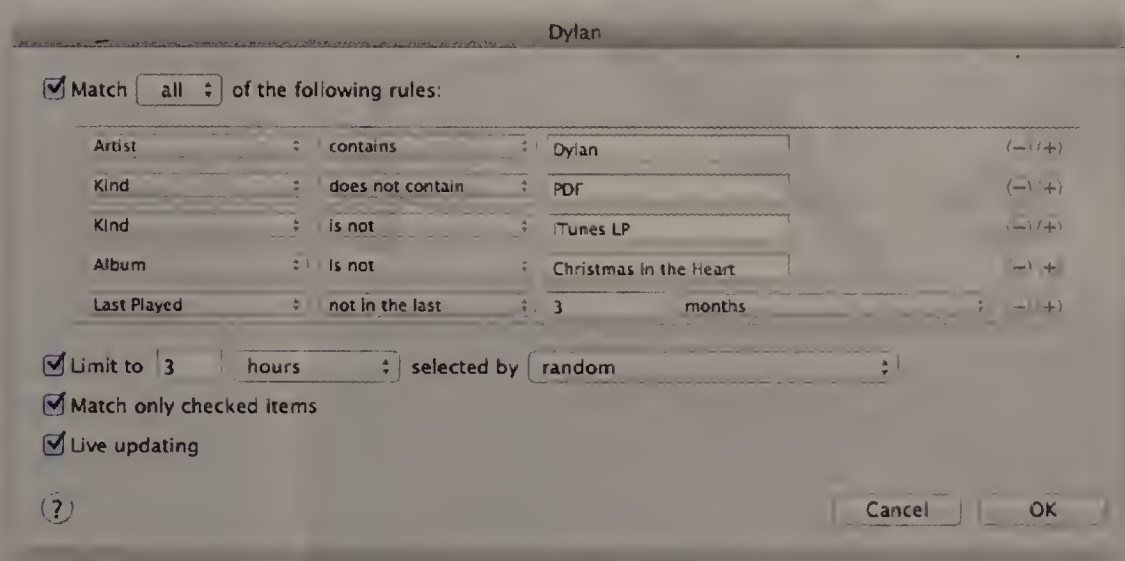
**Q: Let's say I have a greatest-hits album. Does iTunes Match try to match each song on that album, or on the album each song originated from?**

A: iTunes Match matches the song, but doesn't change your tags. So if you have a song on a greatest-hits album, and the Album tag says so, the song will be matched and will retain those tags.

However, if you have two copies of a song—one on an original album and one on a greatest-hits album—iTunes might match only the first one it finds, and say that the other is a duplicate. Thus, you might find that certain songs are not in the cloud, even though most songs on a given album have been matched. This makes playing the album a bit of a bother.

But some greatest-hits albums seem to match on their own as well; it's not consistent. And in some cases these days, iTunes Match is matching duplicates, which it wasn't doing before. As a result, you may have some tracks showing as duplicates, but new matches might not specify when files are duplicates.

*Senior Contributor* ***Kirk McElhearn*** *(www.mcelhearn.com) is the author of* Take Control of iTunes 10: The FAQ, *second edition (TidBits Publishing, 2012). Have questions? Send them to itunesguy@macworld.com.*




**Almost Automatic** The *Live updating* checkbox, when selected, instructs iTunes to update this smart playlist every time a song's Last Played date changes.

# The Movie Lover's Guide to Getting the Most From Hulu Plus

BY LINCOLN SPECTOR

**Classic Noir** Jeanne Moreau stars in Louis Malle's *Elevator to the Gallows*.

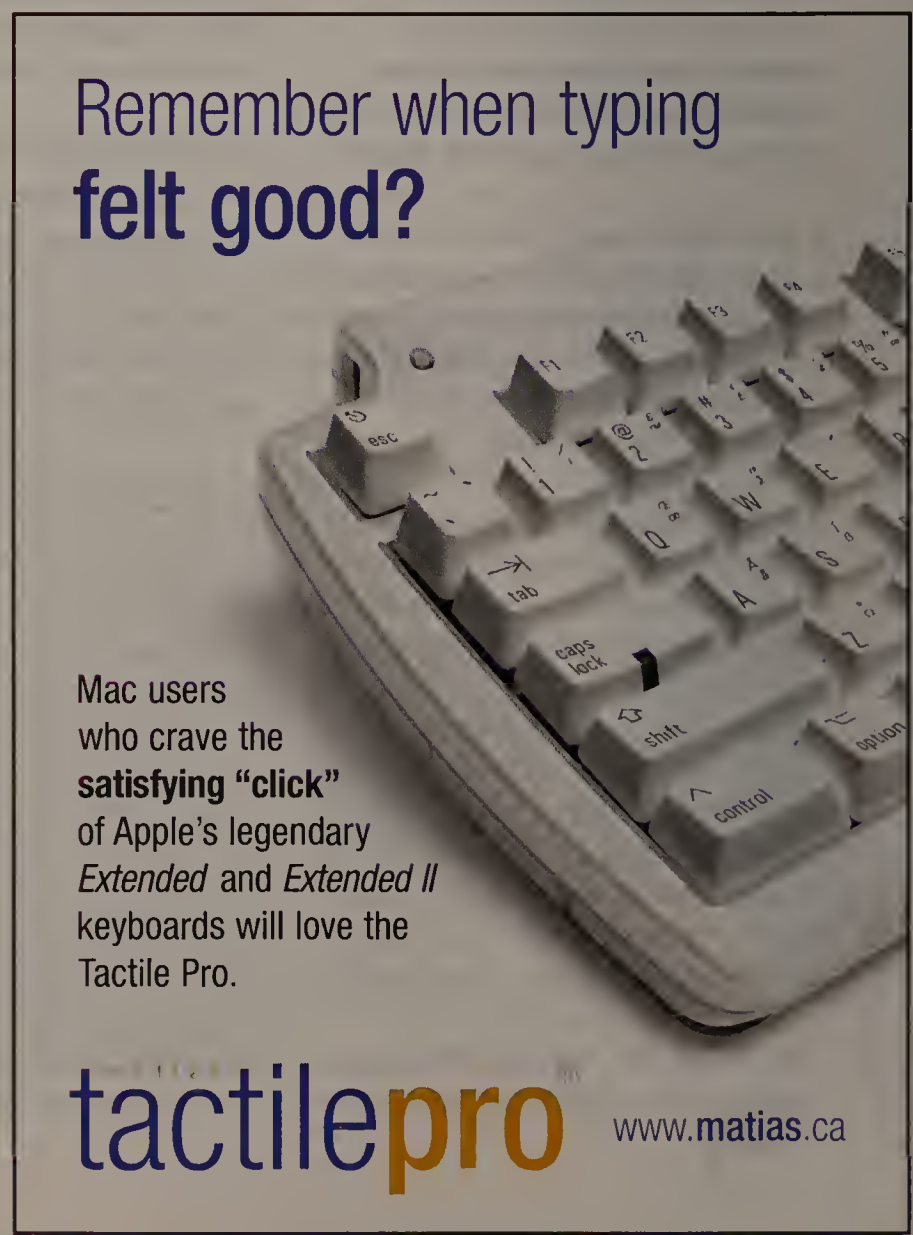
You've probably heard that Netflix is for movies, and Hulu Plus is for TV shows. But these days, Netflix has some great television, while Hulu Plus is a digital paradise for both serious cinephiles and fans of entertaining trash.

If you're unfamiliar with Hulu's selection, explore the companies that provide the films. (Hulu sometimes calls them "studios," even though most of them don't make movies.) In the Hulu app on the iPhone, go to *More* → *Movies* → *Studios*; on the iPad, tap *Movies* → *Browse Movies* → *Studios*. A keyword search will find a particular studio's titles.

To give you a taste of what the $8-a-month subscription offers, I'm going to share some of my favorite studios. Best of all, many movies are available without the commercials you'll find in most of Hulu's TV offerings.

## Criterion

Hulu is so proud of its Criterion association that it features this company on the Browse menu. And for good reason: Criterion (go.macworld.com/hulucri) is the Rolls-Royce of serious-cinema providers in the home. It pretty much invented supplements and commentary tracks (which are, unfortunately, not on Hulu). Its discs tend to be expensive, which makes Hulu's offering feel like a great deal.



If you want to plunge into the works of major directors such as Bergman, Chaplin, Kurosawa, or Truffaut, Hulu's Criterion section is a great place to start. Not every Criterion offering has artistic pretensions, or subtitles; here you'll also find *The Blob* and *Carnival of Souls*. But I recommend a taut little thriller from 1957 called *Elevator to the Gallows*. Louis Malle's first feature, and arguably the beginning of the French New Wave, offers a Gallic twist on the classic perfect-crime-gone-wrong plot.

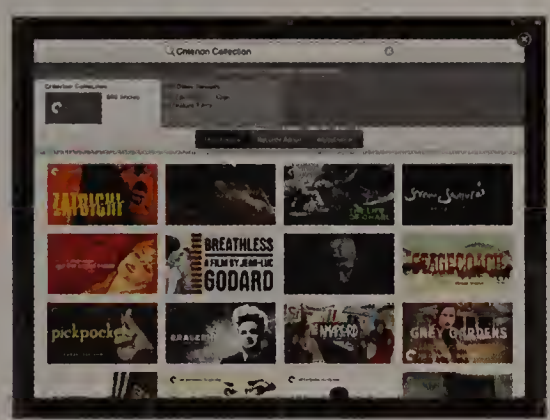
### Strand Releasing

Many independent distributors are on Hulu Plus. If I had to pick one such studio, I'd go with Strand Releasing (go.macworld.com/hulustr). Dramas such as *Oslo, August 31*, coming-of-age stories like *Attenberg*, and documentaries such as *Cameraman: The Life and Work of Jack Cardiff* offer plenty of thought and entertainment.

My favorite film from Strand is *Bonsái*, a quirky, sexy comic drama from Chile. Cutting back and forth between two stories set eight years apart, it examines one young man's love affairs.

### American Pop Classics

Maybe you want to watch something scary, or funny. Or something that was supposed to be scary but turned out funny. Check out the studios that specialize in horror, slapstick, and really bad cinema. The movies shown here, however, usually have commercials, and you can't fast-forward through them.




**Great Films** The Criterion Collection holds a prominent place on Hulu Plus.

My favorite is American Pop Classics (go.macworld.com/huluame). Among the trashier fare, you'll find movies from Roger Corman's assembly-line studio, including Francis Ford Coppola's first feature, *Dementia 13*. It also includes TV shows such as *Bonanza*, *You Bet Your Life, and The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. (In fact, one of the programmers must be a real Sherlock Holmes fan.)

If you like your bad movies with commentary, try the Cinematic Titanic section, where *Mystery Science Theater 3000* veterans crack wise over various "messterpieces." (The other *MST3K* spin-off, RiffTrax, has its own home on Hulu Plus.) One movie to see is Cinematic Titanic's version of *East Meets Watts*, a blaxploitation/kung-fu hybrid from 1974. The movie itself is utterly forgettable, but the commentary, recorded before a live audience, kept me laughing.

# Reviews

Home Entertainment Hardware, Software, and Accessories

## Hardware

### Jabra Solemate

4½; $200; Jabra; jabra.com

Jabra's Solemate Bluetooth speaker competes well with the Jawbone Jambox, and just might be a better buy.

Available in black or white, it weighs 1.3 pounds and has a rugged build meant to protect it from dust, shock, and water.

Pairing the Solemate with assorted iOS devices and my Mac was seamless. It can remember up to eight devices.

The speaker takes about 2.5 hours to charge, which Jabra says should afford you 8 hours of music and talk time, or 40 days of standby time. I easily squeezed 8 hours of listening out of the speaker.

Inside, a 4-inch midrange driver is flanked by a pair of 3/4-inch soft-dome tweeters. Given the size of these drivers and the unit as a whole, audio quality is great. Side by side with the Jambox, the Solemate sounds a smidgen louder and a little punchier, while the Jambox sounds a bit brighter.

In the end, I give a slight edge to the Solemate: Jabra's speaker is more durable, less prone to vibration shimmies, and able to produce a little extra volume.—LEX FRIEDMAN

## iPods: Current Lineup

| PRODUCT | SPECS | RATING | PRICE[1] | DISPLAY | MORE INFO |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| iPod Classic | 160GB | 4 | $249 | 2.5-inch color | go.macworld.com/classic2 |
| iPod Touch 4th Generation | 16GB | n/a | $199 | 3.5-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/touch4 |
| | 32GB | 4½ | $249 | 3.5-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/touch4 |
| iPod Touch 5th Generation | 32GB | 4½ | $299 | 4-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/touch5 |
| | 64GB | 4½ | $399 | 4-inch color (Retina) | go.macworld.com/touch5 |
| iPod Nano | 16GB | 4 | $149 | 2.5-inch color | go.macworld.com/nano7 |
| iPod Shuffle | 2GB | 4 | $49 | None | go.macworld.com/shuffle4 |

n/a = not available. [1]All prices are Apple's prices.

### NuVo Wireless Audio System

3; $199 to $599; NuVo; nuvotechnologies.com

The NuVo multiroom audio system delivers only incremental improvements over the more-affordable Sonos system.

For NuVo's system to work wirelessly, you must link the $199 Gateway GW100 to your router with an ethernet cable. The $479 Player P100 delivers 20 watts per channel, while the $599 Player P200 gives 60 watts per channel and offers Bluetooth audio streaming. You control the system through a NuVo mobile app.

One of the few areas where NuVo outshines Sonos is in highest-quality audio files, as it can play FLAC files encoded at up to 24-bit resolution, with sampling rates up to 96kHz.

Peter Gabriel's Society of Sound album *Half Blood,* and other tracks, sounded marvelous. In audio reproduction, NuVo's players are top-shelf.

NuVo's app needs work. You can queue up as many tracks as you like. You can also connect a USB hard drive to a player, and the app indexes the tracks. But currently you can't edit the queue in real time or save it as a playlist.

If you're a fanatic for audio quality, this system is a good value. NuVo should improve the price-performance ratio, however, for consumers who don't have high-resolution music libraries.—MICHAEL BROWN

### Arcam rPAC

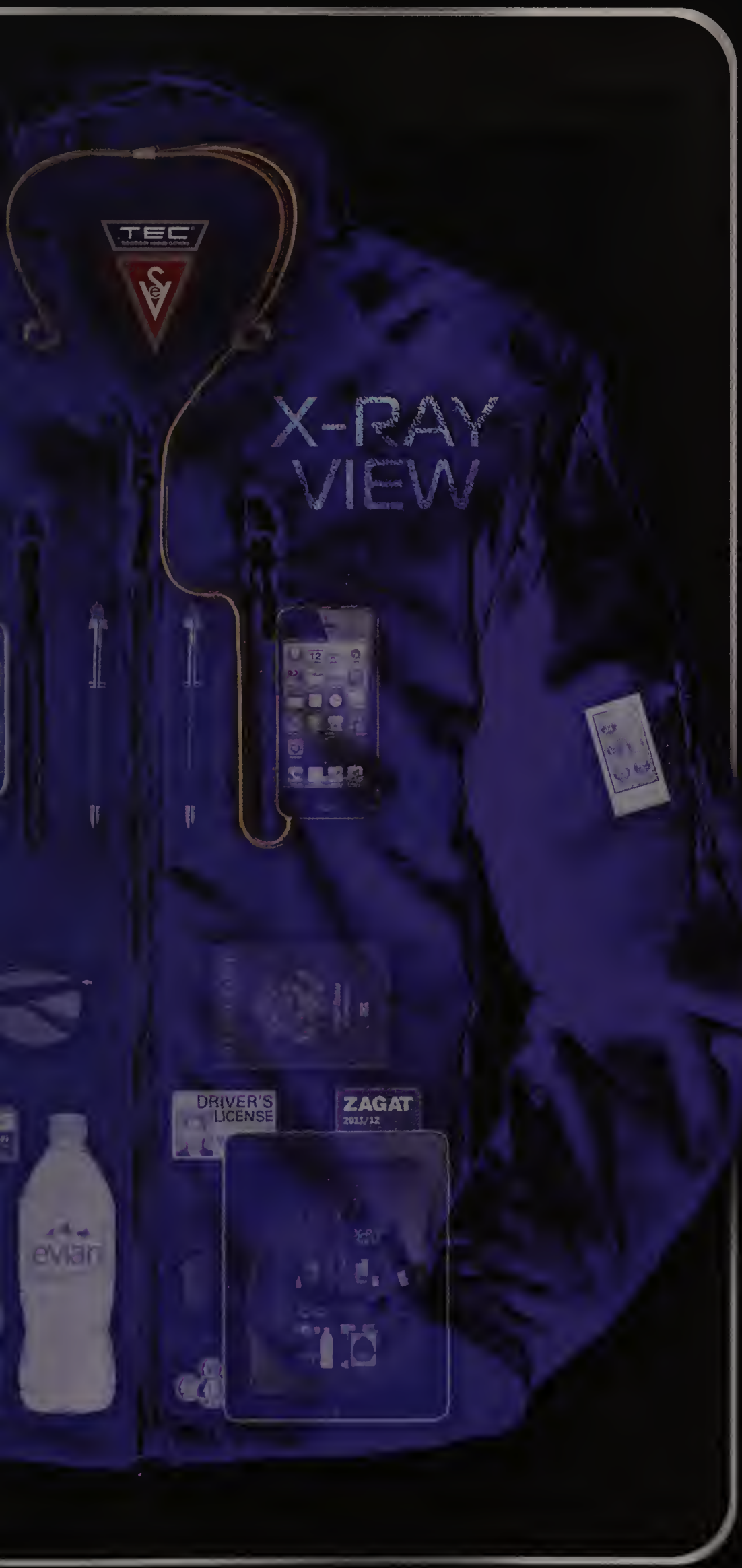
4; $249; Arcam; arcam.co.uk

Arcam's rPAC combines an external USB digital-to-analog converter with a headphone amplifier in a small package.

The 11-ounce rPAC has a 3.5mm headphone jack. On the back is a USB type-B plug for digital audio and power from a computer, plus an analog stereo-RCA output for hooking the rPAC to computer speakers or a stereo system. The rPAC handles digital audio via USB up to 96kHz, 24-bit.

The rPAC puts individual sounds into sharper relief; it also resolves more detail and tightens up bass response. It makes listening more fun than any other DAC/amp I have.

Although the headphone performance is the main draw, if you have good computer speakers and you're listening to them through the analog audio output, prepare to be surprised by what they can do through the rPAC's RCA outputs.—R. MATTHEW WARD

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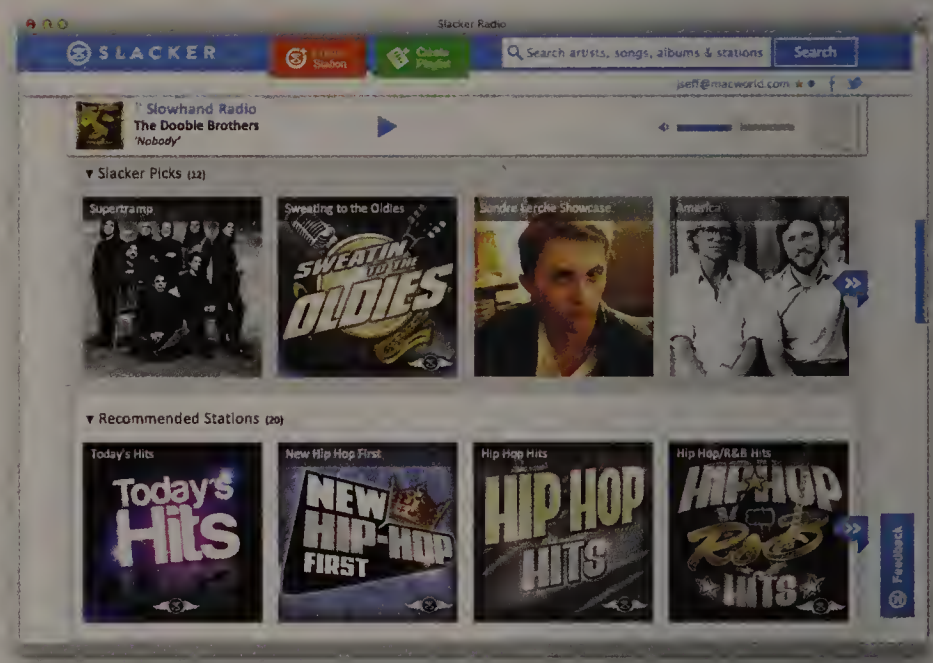
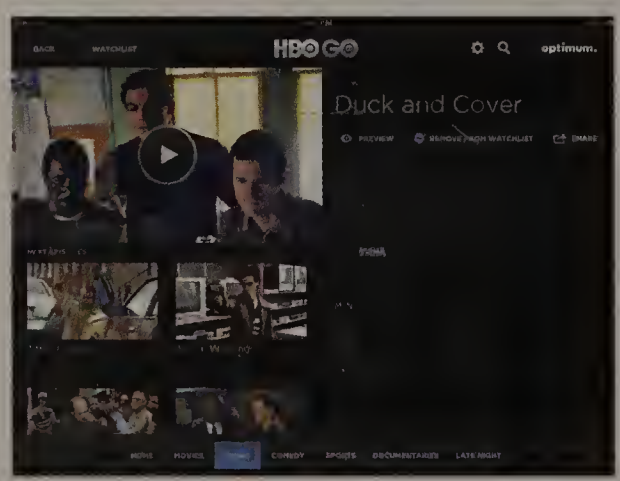
# Hot Stuff

What We're Raving About This Month




## Slacker's New Design

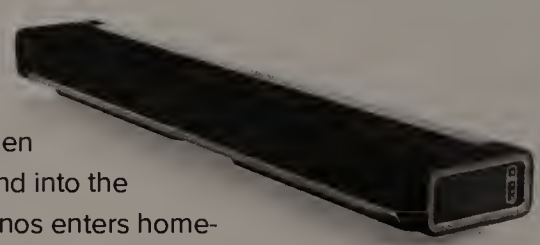
Slacker has long held a strange position in the music-streaming world. Its free Slacker Radio music service rivals Pandora, while its paid Premium Radio offers on-demand access and competes with the likes of Mog, Rdio, Rhapsody, and Spotify. Slacker has also had a uniquely cluttered and oddly designed website, but the recent relaunch of the site and mobile app takes care of that. Besides being more bright and colorful, the new interfaces offer larger buttons and targets, and make it easier to find and access items such as playback controls and custom station creation tools. Improved fine-tuning controls employ new sliders that are more intuitive than Slacker's previous attempt, and as you drag the sliders you see a tag cloud that displays the other artists that will appear in your station. All in all, the redesign is a nice upgrade that makes Slacker a more-than-worthy competitor (www.slacker.com).—JONATHAN SEFF



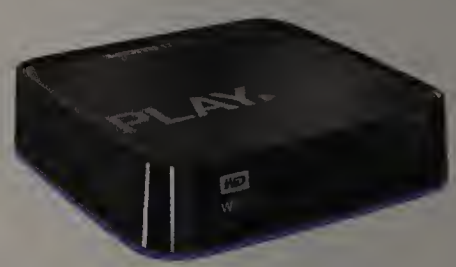

## HBO Go 2.0

A long-overdue update of the HBO Go app for iPhone and iPad brings the ability to stream video wirelessly to the Apple TV. HBO Go is a free offering included with a paid subscription to HBO, though it's not available in all cable markets. If your cable company does support it, you can use the service to stream HBO's catalog of TV shows, including its current lineup, along with a selection of movies. The iOS app works great for watching HBO content, but up until now it had blocked the use of AirPlay (or AirPlay mirroring) to send that premium content to your Apple TV–connected television (www.hbo.com).—JONATHAN SEFF

## Sonos Playbar



People say the best way to stay ahead is to zig when others zag. As NuVo (see page 76) and Pure expand into the multiroom audio market that Sonos dominates, Sonos enters home-theater audio with the Playbar, a wireless speaker bar that can sit at the base of an HDTV. The $699 Playbar is a single-cabinet system with nine speakers (six mid-woofers and three tweeters), each driven by a discrete amplifier. It links to a TV's digital-audio output (via an optical cable) and can play the audio from whatever source is sending to the TV. It also connects to the Sonos streaming-audio ecosystem (www.sonos.com).—MICHAEL BROWN




## WD TV Play

Although Roku and Apple TV dominate in set-top boxes, Western Digital has been in the business for some time. Now, it's trying its hand at low-end streaming video with the $69 WD TV Play. The box streams from services such as Hulu Plus, Netflix, Pandora, Spotify, Vudu, and YouTube. WD also makes an iOS app for controlling the box and helping with text-intensive tasks such as logging in to online apps or searching for programming. The box streams content from your library of videos, photos, and music, too. A USB port lets you plug in a video or still camera to view footage and photos on your TV, and allows you to attach a keyboard (www.wdc.com).—JOHN P. MELLO JR.

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# Create

Using the Web for Video, Graphics, Publishing, Photography, and Other Creative Pursuits

## Do You Really Need a DSLR?

You can take great photos without spending a huge amount of money, and without investing in a hard-to-use DSLR.

**BY WILLIAM PORTER**

You love to take photographs. Your photos get compliments from family and friends, and—don't be modest—you like your pictures yourself.

When you compare your images with some of the eye-popping stuff published in *National Geographic*, however, it's obvious that your fixed-lens, compact camera is holding you back. A newer, bigger, interchangeable-lens camera like the professionals use will help you take your photos to the next level. You need to step up to a DSLR.

At least, that's what high-end camera manufacturers want you to think. But before you reach for your credit card, make sure that you aren't just suffering from a bad case of technolust.

The bigger-sensor, interchangeable-lens cameras that companies produce today under a variety of initialisms and acronyms—DSLR (digital single-lens reflex), DSLT (digital single-lens translucent), MFT (Micro Four-Thirds), and EVIL (electronic viewfinder with interchangeable lens)—are mostly terrific cameras. Next to the best compact, fixed-lens cameras, however, the larger models have cons as well as pros.

Shooting with a bigger camera when you don't actually need one is not just expensive, but may result in worse photos than what you captured before. It can even dampen your interest in photography. Here are a few things to consider before you make an investment.

### More Control Means More Work

Bigger cameras generally offer many more options than compact cameras do, and they tend to put more controls on the outside in the form of buttons, switches, and dials. Getting comfortable with the controls is like learning to drive a car with a stick shift—but much harder.

### Blurry, Fuzzy Photos Are an Issue

Other things being equal, the bigger sensors in DSLR cameras help to produce a shallower depth of field—and that typically means that minor autofocusing errors matter more with a larger camera than with a compact one.

Then you have to consider the problem of blur caused by camera movement. Most compact cameras have some kind of image stabilization feature built in. A handheld camera is never as steady as one mounted on a tripod, of course, and image stabilization reduces the number of photos that camera movement ruins. Sony and Pentax DSLT/DSLR bodies have image stabilization, but the more popular Canon and Nikon DSLR models do not. Getting image stabilization with those brands requires using stabilized lenses, and the DSLR you purchase may or may not come with such a lens.

### Small Is Beautiful, Bigger Is Bigger

Especially if you're an amateur shooting when the spirit hits you, there's wisdom in the saying that "the best camera is the one you have with you." Large cameras are less portable. Time and time again, I've seen people buy a DSLR and play with it, only to stick it on the shelf and go back to a compact for daily shooting. And this makes sense to me: I use my DSLRs for work, but I carry a point-and-shoot everywhere.

### Interchangeable Lenses Mean Money (and Dust)

The lens is arguably a more important factor in the technical quality of your photos than the camera body it's attached to. Professionals purchase interchangeable-lens cameras so that they can use the most appropriate lens for each session. For the average photographer, however, the ability to change lenses is a mixed blessing.

For one thing, the lens on a high-end compact camera may be better than the lens on a low-end DSLR. For example, the fixed lens on my Panasonic Lumix DMC-LX5 is made by Leica, and it's a really good lens: It's optically superior and fast (f/2.0), with a terrific zoom range. The 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 kit lens that comes with the average new DSLR, on the other hand, is probably merely decent.

Usually you can buy only the camera body and purchase a really good lens separately. But you might end up paying as much for the lens as for the body—or more. And that's just your first lens. To get the most out of your interchangeable-lens system, you'll want to buy additional lenses, as good as you can afford. Most serious photographers spend a lot more money on lenses than they do on bodies.

And of course, changing your lenses introduces a serious problem: dust. When you swap out lenses, you expose the camera's sensor and mirror to dust. Any dust on the sensor can mar your photos; cleaning your sensor can be expensive, or at least a pain in the neck.

> Shooting with a bigger camera when you don't actually need one is not just expensive, but may result in worse photos than what you took before.

### Workarounds Defeat the Purpose

Yes, some of these basic problems have workarounds. Your DSLR doesn't have to be difficult to use. You can't get rid of all those buttons it has, of course, but you can ignore them and simply use the camera in Auto or P mode. You can slap a "superzoom" (18–250mm or similar) lens on your DSLR and never take it off.

If you do such things, however, you're surrendering nearly all of the advantages of a DSLR. What you end up with is basically a heavier, less portable, and more expensive point-and-shoot. Also, since superzoom lenses aren't as good optically as fixed-focal-length lenses, or even zoom lenses with a shorter zoom range, your DSLR will end up being a not particularly good point-and-shoot.

### Shoot Well and Be Happy

You may very well be one of those people who genuinely need to own a big-sensor, interchangeable-lens camera. I've daydreamed about shooting a wedding with my LX5, but I would never actually do it. A camera is only a tool in the end, and certain jobs require certain tools.

But if, like most people, you mostly photograph your kids, your pets, your friends, and your vacations, at least consider the possibility that you might be happier with a good compact camera.

Investing in a $400 food processor won't automatically make you a better cook—and by the same token, if you can't take great photos with a Panasonic LX3 or LX5, a Canon PowerShot G12, or the slightly pricier Sony Cyber-shot DSC-RX100, trust me, you won't be able to take great photos with a much more expensive Sony Alpha SLT-A77, Canon EOS 7D, or Nikon D7000.

If you really want to improve your photos, pick up a good book on photography or enroll in a course. Or simply take your next vacation someplace really beautiful. Then you'll be amazed at how much better your photos turn out.

PHOTOGRAPH BY CATHERINE PORTER

**Stay Sharp** Like other compacts, the Panasonic Lumix DMC-LX3 has one advantage over DSLRs: lots of depth of field. As a result, the LX3 kept the legs of this statue and the relatively distant head in focus.

# Microphones: What You Need to Know Before You Buy

Here are a few tips on choosing a microphone for recording music at home.

**BY MICHAEL HOMNICK**

If you're just getting started with recording music at home, the first thing you need to consider is your microphone. The various types of mics can lead to vastly different results.

**Dynamic:** You'll find affordable dynamic microphones (such as the Nady SP-4C) for $20, as well as high-end models (such as the Electro-Voice RE20) that can approach the $500 mark.

When sound waves hit the wire coil inside, it vibrates in relation to a magnet, creating an electrical current that travels through a wire out of the mic and into your computer or recording device.

These mics are the tool of choice for musicians seeking longevity and durability. They can respond to the loudest sources (think cranked-up electric-guitar amps and bass drums), so you'll often see models like the Shure SM57 (about $100) at live shows.

**Condenser:** These mics can produce a stronger audio signal than dynamic mics can, and are more sensitive and responsive. They're good for recording the subtle sounds of acoustic instruments.

The two capacitor plates inside require external power. You supply "phantom power" by hooking the mic to a mixer or other powered device via an XLR cable.

A bad drop or shock can spell the end of your condenser mic. Such models tend to be expensive, too. But if enhanced recording sensitivity is your priority, the Rode NT1-A—the go-to condenser mic for many musicians—sells for about $230.

**Ribbon:** Ribbon microphones are technically dynamic models, except they have a single, thin metal conductor or ribbon that vibrates from contact with sound waves. They are harder to find, and very fragile: A strong blast of air from a bass drum, or exposure to a phantom power source, could ruin this sensitive piece of equipment. Some (like the Blue Microphones Woodpecker) can be around $1000. Even so, some musicians prefer ribbon mics for their warm, detailed sound.

> Dynamic microphones are the tool of choice for musicians seeking longevity and durability, and they can respond to the loudest sound sources.

## Understanding the Verbiage

As you shop for a microphone, you should get familiar with certain terms.

**Directionality:** Most mics are limited to a specific direction. *Omnidirectional* models, such as the Sennheiser MD42 ($200), pick up sound from every direction. They tend to be good for broadcasting or reporting. *Cardioid* ("heart-shaped") mics, such as the Apogee MiC ($200), pick up sound primarily from the front, as well as a little from the sides. They're the most common mics for music. The *bidirectional* pattern, aka figure-eight directionality, picks up sound from two opposite sides, and is popular for podcasting. For one example, see the Shure Beta 181/BI ($500).

Some mics can switch directionalities. The Blue Yeti ($150) is a popular choice because of its USB connection.

**Impedance:** This term refers to a mic's receptiveness to AC current or audio signal, in ohms. Low-impedance mics (600 ohms or lower) are better at retaining audio quality when you use cables longer than about 16 feet. A high impedance can be a sign that the mic's other components are of lower quality.

**Frequency response:** Manufacturers love to boast about the range of frequencies a microphone can detect, but what you really need to know is how responsive it is to specific frequencies. A mic that is good at picking up midrange and high frequencies is right for vocals and guitar, whereas a mic that excels at low frequencies is preferable for recording bass.

# YesVideo iOS App Makes Old Home Movies New Again

BY JACKIE DOVE

**Always Available** YesVideo stores your movies in the cloud, keeping them accessible on your iPhone.

Video is nearly ubiquitous, with countless apps and smartphones letting people create and post tons of movies online on a daily basis. But it wasn't always that way: A generation ago, breaking out the camcorder was something of a production, signifying a special occasion. Today, it's becoming harder and harder to view and share older videos, because the equipment used to capture and enjoy them has become obsolete.

That's where the YesVideo (www.yesvideo.com) cloud-based platform comes in, with a new iOS app. Through the app, you can view and share vintage videos and photos of family and friends—the kind shot in ancient, long-defunct formats—on your iPhone or iPod touch.

## Preserving Memories

YesVideo itself is not new. The company started in 1999 as a service that digitizes material from VHS, mini DV, slides, photos, Super 8, 16mm, Beta, and other formats. It handles only noncommercial content. The new app is designed as an easy entrée into enjoying your content on the go, allowing you to view video albums or chapters and highlight videos, as well as to share videos privately with relatives or friends via email or Facebook.

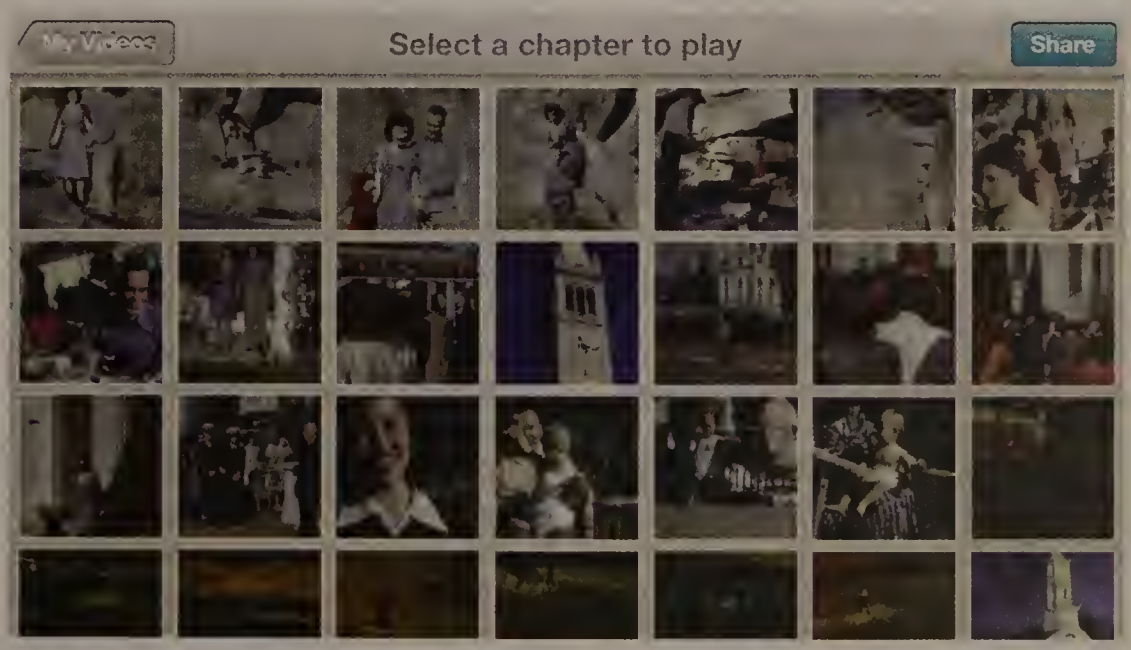
YesVideo is the back end for services at retailers like Costco, CVS, Rite Aid, Sam's Club, Walgreens, and Walmart. Customers can drop off videos at some 34,000 retail locations, or order from YesVideo's site. Digitization costs about $20 per videotape; film reels are billed by the foot.

In addition to solving the problem of accessing video shot in old formats, YesVideo salvages the content for many years of future viewing. Significant decay of analog media sets in over time, and eventually such media would not be viewable at all.

YesVideo creates custom scenes, repairs splices, cleans dust and dirt, stabilizes images, and reduces flicker. It intelligently breaks videos into chapters with themes, music, and a highlight video. When YesVideo finishes digitizing your footage, it returns your original media along with new DVDs. YesVideo's service includes free and unlimited cloud storage.

You can edit and view the videos on any device. By connecting an iOS device via AirPlay to an Apple TV or HDTV, you can stream videos to your living room.

The iOS app is free at the iTunes store. It's optimized for iPhone 5 but can run on iPhone 3GS and later, as well as on the third-, fourth-, and fifth-generation iPod touch. It runs on iOS 6.0 or later. Users of other OSs can go through the HTML5 site, available via mobile browser.




**Chapter Breakdown** The YesVideo service intelligently splits long video footage, allowing you to choose what to see without undertaking extensive scrubbing.

# Alt Photo for iPhone Does Filters Differently

BY JACKIE DOVE

**Review**

RATING
PRICE Free
COMPANY Alien Skin
URL alienskin.com

With smartphone cameras and their dedicated photo apps—Instagram in particular—filters have emerged as almost a de rigueur aspect of mobile shooting and sharing.

Today, a preponderance of iPhone and Android photo-editing apps let you adorn your snaps via filters with names such as Holga, Lo-fi, or Toy Camera. Such filters can add interest and uniqueness to your run-of-the-mill photos, and I refuse to pass judgment on whether they achieve that goal or whether people should simply shoot better photos so that they don't need to dress them up artificially. What really matters is whether a filter enhances a photo or gives the viewer an unusual take on a subject. Alt Photo for IPhone is one app whose filters do so in a gratifying way, and I repeatedly turn to it for nearly all my photo filtering.

## An Unusual Approach to Filters

Alt Photo is a consumer-level, easy-to-use app from Alien Skin Software, a company best known for professional-grade, high-end Photoshop filtering packages such as the Eye Candy series and Snap Art, which routinely cost around $200 a pop. Alt Photo offers a dIfferent take on arty filters: Instead of providing simple styles, Alt Photo seeks to give your IPhone photos a varlety of filmlike looks. Somewhat of a takeoff on an Alien Skin desktop program called Exposure, Alt Photo emulates the effects of old film stocks and printing styles.

Alt Photo opens to an interface that resembles a camera LCD, with a large button in the middle. You can shoot from the front or back camera in landscape orientation. Tap to use flash or not. The square trigger next to the shutter coaches you on how to use the button to start burst-mode continuous shooting or to revlew your single shot. The next square lets you choose aspect ratio; you can select either 1:1 or 4:3. After you shoot, your image fills the screen, ready for editing. You don't have to shoot your photo in the app to apply filters and borders, however: From the opening screen, a preview area to the left of the shutter button gives you access to your entire camera roll.

The editing module provides four choices: crop, border, brightness, and effect intensity. The button arrangement seems to suggest a sequence, but I found it best to apply Alt Photo controls according to the needs of each image—and inevitably, each one will be different.

The heart of the program is the Film Gallery. What's nice about Alt Photo is that it does not overwhelm you with choices. It has only six categories—Color Film, Vintage Color, Toy Camera (yes, it has a Toy Camera), B&W Film, B&W Print, and B&W Vintage. That's three monochromatlc choices—and it's no acclident. Many, if not most, people who started shooting with film (and processing it) generally shot in black and white with assorted popular film brands that each had distinctive characteristics. What former film shooter doesn't remember (fondly or not) the grain of Kodak Tri-X?

**Vintage Looks** The app offers three color and three black-and-white film grains and styles.

To apply filter effects, start with your original photo and swipe down to move through the categories. Within a category, swipe to the right to see each of the six variatlons. Then use the Effect Intensity control to adjust the filter of your choice by sliding your finger to the left or right. Next, use the Border control to apply one of 15 border styles, by way of the same swipe-through technique.

After editing, you can write a caption and share your picture on multiple services—Facebook, Flickr, Instagram, and Twitter—as well as via email.

## Bottom Line

What attracts me to Alt Photo is its simplicity and distinctiveness. Although I like some of the filters in Instagram and other apps of its ilk, I find myself gravitating to Alt Photo because I know it will achieve a look both recognizable and different from the pack. It offers a llght, subtle touch, giving photos character without piling it on too thick. And it's free.

I'm awaiting the day when Alien Skin decides to develop Alt Photo for the iPad.

Jackery

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# Reviews

Hardware, Software, and Accessories for Your Creative Endeavors

Hardware

## Pen E-PL5

♦♦♦♦; $600; Olympus; getolympus.com

The Olympus Pen E-PL5 has the same 16-megapixel CMOS sensor and processing engine as the company's OM-D E-M5, but it houses those electronics in a smaller, lighter, and less expensive package.

The hinged 3-inch touch-screen LCD on this handsome Micro Four-Thirds camera can swing all the way up for self-portraits. It has a decent 460,000-pixel resolution.

The compact body lacks room for a built-in flash. A separate flash comes in the kit and slides into the accessory shoe. Although the E-PL5 has an interchangeable front grip (also included), I still had difficulty holding it in my right hand. The protruding LCD further compounds the camera's cramped feeling.

Fortunately, the E-PL5 packs a big punch for a small camera, creating outstanding images that can compete with those of many APS-C DSLRs. Even with the 14-42mm f/3.5 II R kit zoom lens, the E-PL5 quickly nailed the focus on every subject I tested. In dim conditions, the focus-assist light ensured accurate results.

Olympus's proven "sensor shift" image stabilization lets you use any lens you want and still have the benefits of IS. The E-PL5 also features a dozen Olympus Art Filters.

You can capture up to 29 minutes of 1080 60i HD video in .mov or .avi format. Stereo microphones straddle the hot shoe; to attach an external mic, you need an accessory adapter. Video quality is good.

Olympus suggests using a Toshiba FlashAir memory card that connects with the Olympus Image Share app and turns the E-PL5 into a Wi-Fi hotspot for connecting to your iPhone or iPad to transfer pictures. Since Olympus didn't send a FlashAir card along with the review camera, I wasn't able to test it.

The E-PL5 is a camera you should hold in your hands before buying. If it passes your personal ergonomics test, the performance is sure to please.—DERRICK STORY

Software

## PulpMotion 3.5

♦♦♦♦; $49 (Standard), $129 (Advanced); Aquafadas; aquafadas.com

PulpMotion for OS X takes the art and craft of slideshows very seriously. Requiring Snow Leopard or later, it comes in Standard and Advanced versions (free trials are available). The latter supports more effects and capabilities, plus pro features such as interoperability with Apple's Aperture.

The Advanced version has roughly 150 templates, while the Standard edition has 130 or so. The templates are quite sophisticated, with visual effects that employ OS X's ability to generate complex 3D animations and lighting.

In most cases making a slideshow is simply a matter of choosing images or videos from your hard drive or iPhoto album and dropping them onto the timeline. PulpMotion takes care of positioning and transitions, according to the rules the template calls for.

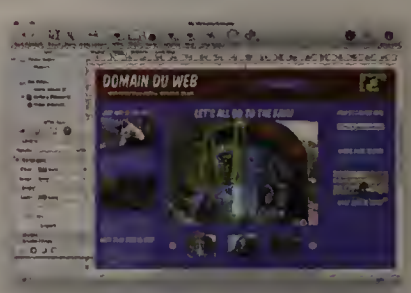
You can add a multitude of visual effects. Since the app bases its effect system on Apple's Quartz technology, you can also use third-party filters created in utilities such as Quartz Composer.

In the Advanced version you can specify one or more "zones of interest," or areas of an item that are to get additional consideration during a slideshow. For example, you could highlight or zoom in on certain details. The system didn't always work well in my tests; sometimes the picture started displaying properly only after I did a fair amount of manual panning and resizing.

A slideshow is a sad affair without audio, and PulpMotion excels here. Its audio-editing software allows you to mix tracks, as well as to add effects and your own commentary.

PulpMotion hides the complexity of building slideshows without limiting options significantly. The interface is fairly intuitive, though it has quirks; for example, undo did not quite work as I expected, particularly on filters. This isn't a huge problem, since the app handles potentially destructive operations properly.

All things considered, though, PulpMotion is great for anyone who wants to add spice to their photo collection.—MARCO TABINI




## Freeway 6 Pro

♦♦♦½; $150; Softpress; softpress.com

Freeway 6 Pro can help Web designers create sophisticated sites without typing a line of HTML code. But this Mac app's utility is undermined by some rough edges and an outdated interface.

Foremost among the new features is support for HTML5, including new semantic elements and media formats like H.246-encoded MPEG-4 video. You can upload videos to the Web linked to files in other formats such as Flash, Ogg, or WebM, to ensure that visitors can see the movies.

Forms have added support for new input types, border

styling, background colors, and labels inside blank input fields. Enhanced CSS layout options and effects, as well as Disqus-powered visitor comments, can make your site more attractive, dynamic, and up-to-date.

You create pages visually by arranging objects and then customizing them via the context-sensitive Inspector, which displays appropriate controls for objects you select. You can make master pages that define the appearance, formatting, and functions of linked pages. Most functions come in the form of Actions, elements that let you add, with minimal effort, features such as rollovers, image filters, and navigation menus.

You can build sites from scratch, or use templates. Freeway comes with eight site templates, plus three HTML email templates. Most are suited to small-business needs. More templates are available for free from the Softpress site and elsewhere, but I'd prefer to see a wider range of options bundled with the program.

Freeway also lags behind modern design applications in frustrating ways. It offers one level of undo, and objects vanish as you move or resize them, replaced by outlined boxes. Direct access to iLife libraries is included only in the Showcase companion app, adding complexity to working with many media files. Worse, the generally solid documentation has a few glaring omissions, such as exactly how Showcase works with Freeway.

Though Freeway Pro is worth considering for building complex websites, it will be a truly excellent choice when its interface catches up to its robust tools.—ADAM BERENSTAIN

# Top Products

YOUR GUIDE TO THE BEST HARDWARE WE'VE TESTED

## CAMCORDERS
High-Definition

| PRODUCT | RATING | PRICE [1] | TYPE | MORE INFO [2] |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Bloggie Live** (pictured) www.sony.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $100 | Full HD | go.macworld.com/bloggielive |
| **HMX-Q10UN** www.samsung.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $165 | Full HD | go.macworld.com/hmxq10un |

## DIGITAL CAMERAS
Point-and-Shoot

| PRODUCT | RATING | PRICE [1] | TYPE | MORE INFO [2] |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **PowerShot G12** www.canon.com | ♦♦♦½ | $300 | 10-megapixel | go.macworld.com/canong12 |
| **PowerShot SX260 HS** (pictured) www.canon.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $197 | 12-megapixel | go.macworld.com/sx260hs |

## DIGITAL CAMERAS
SLR

| PRODUCT | RATING | PRICE [1] | TYPE | MORE INFO [2] |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **D7000** www.nikon.com | ♦♦♦½ | $694 | 16-megapixel | go.macworld.com/nikond7000 |
| **EOS Rebel T3i** (pictured) www.canon.com | ♦♦♦½ | $467 | 18-megapixel | go.macworld.com/canonT3i |
| **Olympus OM-D E-M5** www.olympusamerica.com | ♦♦♦½ | $880 | 16-megapixel | go.macworld.com/omdem5 |

## PRINTERS
Inkjet

| PRODUCT | RATING | PRICE [1] | TYPE | MORE INFO [2] |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Pixma MG8220** www.canon.com | ♦♦♦½ | $125 | photo | go.macworld.com/mg8220 |
| **WorkForce Pro WP-4020** (pictured) www.epson.com | ♦♦♦♦ | $60 | photo | go.macworld.com/wfprowp4020 |

[1] All prices are the best current prices taken from a PriceGrabber survey of retailers at press time. [2] In a browser's address field, typing a Go URL, exactly as shown, takes you to a product's review or overview.

## Givit Video Highlighter

♦♦♦♦; free; VMIX Media; givit.com

When we first reviewed the Givit video-sharing app for iPhone last year (go.macworld.com/givitrev1), we focused on the sharing capabilities.

Since then, Givit has evolved. Users have more control over sharing than ever, but the app has added editing capabilities that allow you to share somewhat polished video creations instead of dumping raw footage on family and friends.

At the center of the rebuilt app is a highlighting function. You can either select highlights from already recorded video, or tap a Highlight button while shooting. (If a highlight catches you unexpectedly while you're recording, a second button lets you retroactively begin capturing the moment even while you're in live recording mode.)

Givit can stitch the highlights into an edited video, which you can further polish by inserting visual effects or by adding music from your iTunes library or Givit's own small collection. The fade-out feature lets you end the video gracefully. And the app does all of this quickly.

Videophiles might avoid Givit, as it's best suited for short videos to share on Facebook, on YouTube, or privately. For everybody else, Givit's continued improvements make it a go-to app for creating quick, meaningful movies.—JOEL MATHIS

# Help Desk

Answering Your Questions and Sharing Your Tips About Getting the Most From Your Mac

## Mac OS X Hints

The insider tips you won't get from Apple.

BY KIRK McELHEARN

### Position Dictionary Results in Spotlight Searches

If you use Spotlight to look up Dictionary definitions, you may find it annoying that they show up near the bottom of the list. While you can change the order of most Spotlight categories from the Search Results tab of the Spotlight pane in System Preferences, Dictionary isn't in that list.

However, you can use a hack, involving some simple editing of the file com.apple.spotlight.plist, located in the *youruser-name*/Library/Preferences/ folder. Open that file with Xcode. Find the section labeled orderedItems. (If it isn't there, go to *System Preferences* → *Spotlight*, and drag items into a different order; that should create the orderedItems array.) Select *Editor* → *Add Item* and make the item a *Dictionary*.

Next, click the *Plus* sign (+) to add a key value. The first value should be **enabled**. Use the drop-down menu to make that value *Boolean*, then select *Yes* from the right-most column. Click the *Plus* sign again and add another value, this one entitled **name**, of the type *String*, and enter **MENU_DEFINITION**. Save the .plist file and exit XCode.

Next time you open the Spotlight pane in System Preferences, a blank line will be at the top; that's your Dictionary item. You can move that line wherever you like.

com.apple.spotlight.plist

com.apple.spotlight.plist › No Selection

| Key | Type | Value |
|---|---|---|
| ▼ Root | Dictionary | (3 items) |
| version | Number | 2 |
| ▼ orderedItems | Array | (17 items) |
| ▼ Item 0 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| enabled | Boolean | YES |
| name | String | MENU_DEFINITION |
| ▶ Item 1 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 2 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 3 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 4 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 5 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 6 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 7 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 8 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 9 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 10 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 11 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 12 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 13 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 14 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 15 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ Item 16 | Dictionary | (2 items) |
| ▶ UserShortcuts | Dictionary | (5 items) |

**Move Dictionary Results** To move a dictionary lookup to the top of Spotlight search results, edit the com.apple.spotlight.plist file.

### Create Clickable Links in Mail

If you have a link in a Mail message that you're composing (in rich text mode, after selecting a link, pressing <Command>-K, then adding the URL), the link will be blue and underlined. But if you click it, you won't be taken to the link's page. This is so you can edit the visible text of the link. However, if you <Shift>-click the link, you *will* be taken to its page. This keyboard trick works in versions of OS X dating at least as far back as Leopard.

### Find the Email That a Saved Attachment Came With

Has this ever happened to you? You save an attachment from an email message to some location on your hard drive, then, later, you need to find the message that it came with. What's to be done? One Hints reader provided a solution that uses AppleScript (see go.macworld.com/applescript for a little more on this Apple scripting language).

Open AppleScript Editor and enter the text that you see in the Script Box on the next page into the window.

Save the script as an Application (*File* → *Save*, then choose *Application* from the File Format menu), and place it in your Downloads folder for easy access. Just drag the file that was an attachment onto

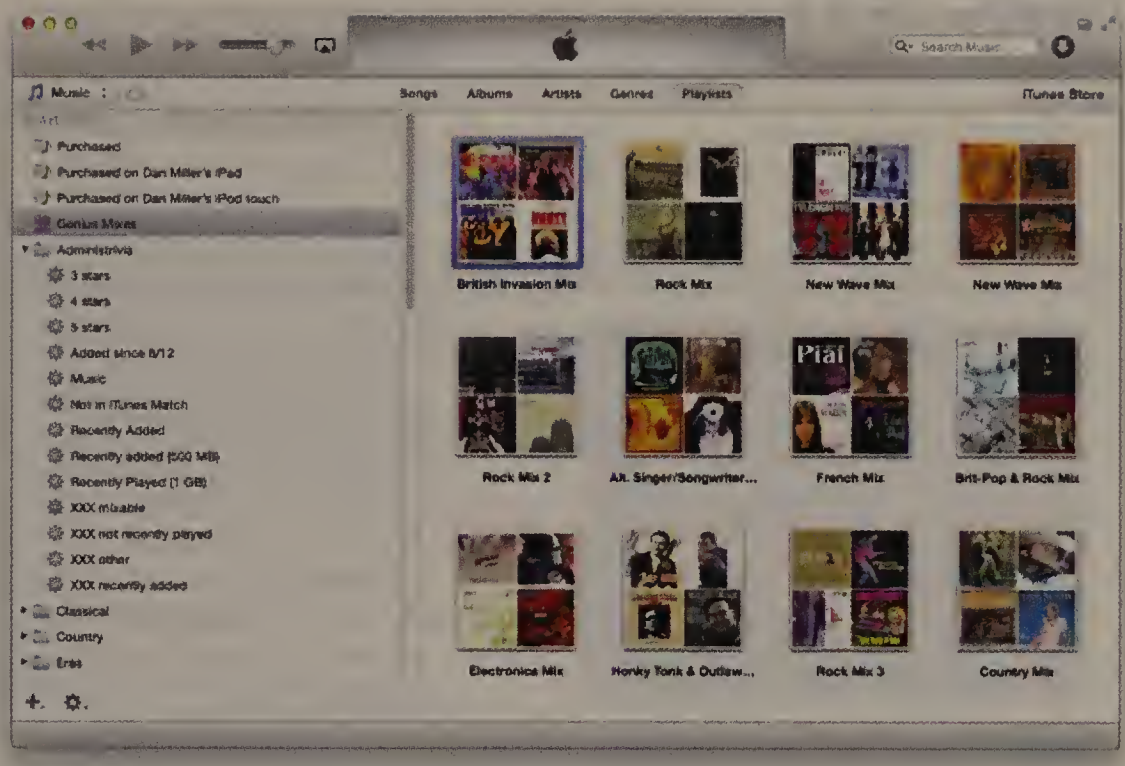
the script to have Mail open the message that the file came with. (If you deleted the message, however, the script will tell you that it cannot open that message.)

### Scrub Through Tracks in iTunes 11 With a Two-Finger Swipe

If you want to scrub (navigate quickly) through a track in iTunes 11, position the mouse point over the track progress bar in the iTunes LCD, then use a two-finger swipe on the trackpad to scrub forward and backward.

The same gesture also applies to the volume controller in iTunes.

Also, since mouse scrolling is passed to a window as long as the pointer is over it, even if another window is in focus, you can use this gesture to reduce iTunes volume with no clicks at all. It's worth noting that the cursor has to be precisely over the progress bar or the volume slider for this swipe to work. You can also do this with a scroll-wheel mouse, or in a QuickTime Player window.




### Delete Genius Mixes

Sharp-eyed Hints readers have spotted something in iTunes 11 that they hadn't seen before: If you Control- or right-click a Genius Mix icon, then you can choose *Remove Genius Mix name* and delete that name from the Genius Mixes list. If you want to get all your Genius Mixes back, you can right-click anywhere in the white space of that window and choose *Restore All Mixes* to get them all back. You still have no control, though, over how Genius Mixes are created.

**Manage Your Mixes** If you Control- or right-click the name of a Genius Mix, you'll have the option of deleting that mix from the list.

### Set iPhone to Flash LED for Alerts

Several folks on the Internet seem to have discovered a useful kind of alert on the iPhone: If you dig deep into the Accessibility settings (*Settings* → *General* → *Accessibility*) in the Hearing section, you'll find the option LED Flash for Alerts.

If you turn that setting on, your phone will flash its screen whenever you get an alert for a phone call, text messages, or anything that issues an alert. Such screen flashes are most useful if you are in a situation where you need to turn the sound off on your IPhone, or are in a noisy environment and may not hear alert sounds but still want to receive alerts.

This works only when the iPhone is asleep (when the screen has gone dark). And of course, if you have the iPhone on a table with the screen face down, you may not see the flash.

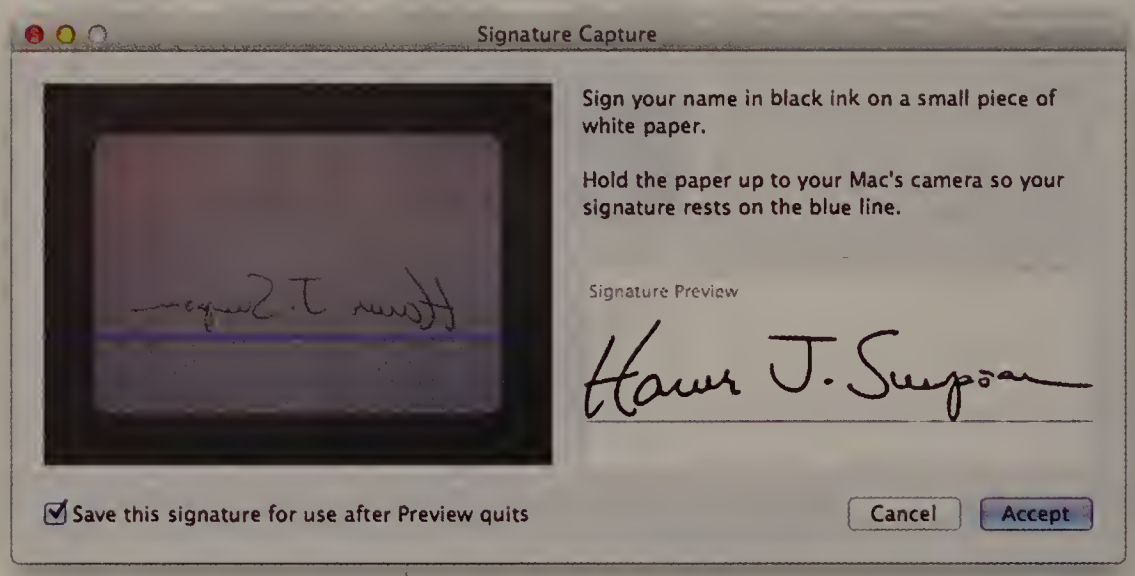
## Script Box

```
on open thefiles
  repeat with thisfile in thefiles
    mainscript(thisfile)
  end repeat
end open
on run
  try
    tell application "Finder" to set thefiles to its selection
    if result is {} then error
  on error
    set thefiles to choose file with multiple selections allowed
  end try
  delay 0.5
  repeat with thisfile in thefiles
    mainscript(thisfile as alias)
  end repeat
end run
on mainscript(thefile)
  set filepath to POSIX path of thefile
  do shell script "open $(mdls " & quoted form of filepath & "
  | grep
'message:' | cut -d\\\" -f2)"
end mainscript
```

# Mac 911

Solutions to your most vexing Mac problems.

BY CHRISTOPHER BREEN




**Making It Write** Preview can scan your written signature, allowing you to append it to PDF files.

## Signing Digital Documents

**Q: I've received some electronic documents that I'm supposed to sign. I could print and sign them and mail them back, but I've heard that there's a way to sign them right on my Mac. Do you know how it's done?**

Isabel Lorenzo

**A.** If your system is running Mac OS X Lion or later, you can employ Preview's Signature feature. Launch Preview, open its preferences, and select the *Signatures* tab. Click the *Plus* (+) button at the bottom of the window. The Signature Capture window will appear, and your Mac's camera will light up.

Scrawl out your John Hancock on a piece of paper, and hold that paper before the camera—making sure that your signature aligns with the blue line in the viewer area. Signature Capture will grab your signature and display it to the right of the viewer (see "Making It Write," above). Click the *Accept* button, and Preview will add your signature to its list of available signatures.

When you need to sign a PDF, choose *Tools* → *Annotate* → *Signature*. This will make a crosshairs cursor appear. Drag it, and your signature will come up. (If you have stored more than one signature, click the *Signature* menu in the toolbar and select the signature you wish to use.) Drag the signature where you'd like it to appear, and, if necessary, resize it. Save the PDF, and your signature will be embedded in the document.

You can also slap a signature on PDF files with Adobe Reader. Although Reader doesn't offer Preview's camera trick, applying a signature is pretty easy.

Open a PDF, and click the *Sign* button that appears in the toolbar. Click the triangle next to the 'I Need to Sign' heading and choose *Place Signature*. In the Place Signature window that appears, choose *Type my signature*, and enter your name in the appropriate field. Your signature will appear below in a scriptlike font. Click the *Accept* button, place the cursor where you'd like your signature to be, and click. The signature will appear on the page, where you can then resize it.

If the recipient of your document is likely to respond with "I've seen your signature, and that ain't it!" return to the Place Signature command and choose *Clear Saved Signature*. Now click *Place Signature* yet again, and, in the window that appears, choose *Draw My Signature* from the first pop-up menu. Then do your darndest to create a legible signature, scrawling it with your mouse or trackpad. Again, click *Accept* when you're done; you can then place this handwritten signature in your electronic document.

This kind of signature is fine in some cases, but not all. For greater security, some documents (those with Adobe's Reader Usage Rights enabled) must be digitally signed. Adobe Reader includes a feature for creating such digital IDs.

Launch Adobe Reader, open its preferences, and select *Signatures*. In the Identities & Trusted Certificates area, click the *More* button. In the window that pops up, you'll see a handful of certificates.

Click the *Add ID* button, and, in the resulting window, enable the *A New Digital ID I Want To Create Now* option, and click the *Next* button. In the Add Digital ID window, enter your name and an email address. The Key Algorithm pop-up menu offers two options—'1024-bit RSA' and '2048-bit RSA'. The latter is more secure, but the former is more widely compatible. Choose one, and click *Next*.

In the subsequent window, you'll see the location of your signature file. Make a note of that location should you wish to back up the file. Then enter and confirm a password. When you're done, click the *Finish* button. Your signature will show up at the bottom of the certificate list. Finally, click the *Close* button and close the preferences window.

When you next need to sign a document that requires a certificate, just

**Have a Problem?**

**Go to the Mac 911 forum (go.macworld.com/mac911) to ask about your misbehaving Macs and applications.**

double-click in the digital signature field, and the Sign Document dialog box will appear. Enter the password for your signature, and follow the instructions for inserting your signature.

## Restoring a Very Stubborn iPod Touch

**Q. I've been trying to update my iPod touch to iOS 6, and it's not working. I plugged it into my Mac, chose to update it in iTunes, and the update stalled on the iPod—the progress bar never filled in on the iPod's screen. I waited an hour and finally unplugged the iPod and tried again. And when I did, I got into an endless cycle where iTunes would download the latest update, the update wouldn't install, and then I was told to restore again. What should I do?**

Cat Sorenson

A. The 'Connect to iTunes' screen you see indicates that your iPod is in recovery mode, and clearly that's not working. Your next step is to try booting into Device Firmware Update (or DFU) mode. To do so, hold down the iPod's On/Off button until the device shuts off. Then hold down both the Home and On/Off buttons for 10 seconds. Next, release the On/Off button, but keep holding the Home button for another 10 seconds. iTunes will tell you that your device is in recovery mode and that you must restore your iPod. Give it a go and, with luck, the iPod will break out of the cycle.

If that doesn't work, I have another solution (but see my caveat at the end).

First, locate the update file that iTunes has downloaded for you (it will be named something like *iPod5,1_6_1_10B141_Restore.ipsw*). You'll find it by following this path: *youruserfolder* → /Library/iTunes/iPod Software Updates. (You access the Library folder within your user folder by holding down the <Option> key while in the Finder and choosing Go → *Library*.) Drag this file to the desktop.

Afterward, download a copy of the free RedSn0w application (idownloadblog.com/iphone-downloads). Normally this tool is for jailbreaking iOS devices, but we're not going to use it for breaking into your iPod. Instead, we'll engage its powers to force an update.

Launch RedSn0w, click the *Extras* button, click *Even More* on the resulting screen, and click *Restore*. On the page that appears, click *IPSW*; in the navigation window that shows up, navigate to the ipsw restore file that you placed on your desktop, select it, and click *Open*.

RedSn0w will prepare the restore image, your iPod will enter recovery mode, and the update will be installed. RedSn0w will display an alert telling you when the update has been successful. You can then sync your device with iTunes (where, we hope, you have a backup of your data; my caveat is that restoring the device in this way wipes all your data from the iPod).

## Making Dropbox Your Default Folder for Saving Files

**Q. I'm a pretty happy Dropbox user who spends a lot of time on the road. But I sometimes forget to put the files that I'm working on at the office into my Dropbox folder. Do**

## Bugs & Fixes BY TED LANDAU

### When an iPhone Fails to Pair to a Bluetooth Device

I have heard multiple reports of iPhone 5s failing to pair with a Bluetooth car-audio system and wireless headphones. Pairings to other devices may also be a problem. Typically, these difficulties begin after users upgrade from an older iPhone model (which was working just fine) to an iPhone 5 running iOS 6. In a few instances, the same sort of pairing problems have been reported for the iPhone 4S.

If this has happened to you, one or more of the following fixes should get you connected again.

> **Update the car-audio firmware:** Not all car-audio systems are compatible with the iPhone 5. In particular, the older Bluetooth drivers in such systems are not compatible with the Bluetooth 4.0 standard that the latest iPhones use. A firmware update to the audio system eliminates the problem. Check with the manufacturer of your car or audio system for details.

> **Follow the instructions:** Several people have been able to pair their new iPhone to their car's audio system only after they precisely followed instructions. In particular, pairing required a confirming action from both the iPhone and the car-audio system. Users, apparently having forgotten how they originally paired their older iPhone model, erroneously attempted to pair their new iPhone 5 by confirming on only one device. Similarly, when attempting to pair an iPhone to a Bluetooth headset, some users did not realize that holding down the headset's call button was necessary.

> **Modify the iPhone settings:** Navigate to *General* → *Accessibility* → *Physical & Motor*. On this screen, change the Incoming Calls setting from Default to *Headset*. This change ensures that the iPhone creates a Bluetooth headset pairing to your car's audio system, which is needed for phone calls to work as expected. When you are not in your car, the iPhone reverts to its "normal" behavior.

> **Clear the audio system's memory:** Some people claim that, when trying to pair an iPhone 5 to their car's audio system, the system instead attempts to connect with a previously paired, now absent, iPhone model. To fix this, wipe the car system's memory clean, having it "forget" all previously paired devices. After doing so, pairing with the new iPhone should succeed.

> **Update the iOS:** In some cases, the culprit may be a bug in the iOS 6.0 software. At least for Honda CR-V owners, upgrading to iOS 6.1 seemed to eliminate Bluetooth pairing problems.

*Share your problems at bugs@macworld.com or on Macworld.com's Mac 911 forum.*

**you have any hints on ways to ensure that this doesn't happen?**

Gil Cranston

A. For me, the surefire way to get files into your Dropbox (or any other syncing service, including SugarSync) is to do it when you first save your document. And that means enhancing the Mac's Save dialog box so that you can easily navigate to that offline folder. In my case that means St. Clair Software's $35 Default Folder X (stclairsoft.com/DefaultFolderX). This utility allows you to choose a...well, default folder for saving documents within any application.

For example, if the Excel documents you work on are created with your job in mind, you can configure Default Folder so that Excel saves these documents to your Dropbox folder (or, better yet, to a folder within it) by default. What's so attractive about the utility is that Default Folder can create a separate default destination for each application you use (see "Creating Default Folders," below). So, use an Excel Docs folder within your Dropbox folder for your spreadsheets or a Word Docs folder for your Word files. Or you could create project-specific folders as the default if that seems more workable and it makes little sense to you to create separate folders for filing documents created by specific applications.

Another benefit of Default Folder is that it can work around Mountain Lion's habit of saving certain kinds of documents to iCloud (those documents spawned from the iWork applications, TextEdit, and Preview). In the past, Default Folder couldn't defeat the "Documents in the Cloud" feature that made iCloud the default destination for saving documents within these applications. It now can.

## Mac 101

### Quickly Send Safari Links

**Q. Before I upgraded to Mountain Lion, I was able to look at a webpage in Safari and choose File → 'Mail Link to this Page' to create a new email message that had the link to that page embedded in it. That feature is gone in the latest version of Safari. How do I bring it back?**

Bran Forrester

**A. The command is still available (as is its ⌘-<Shift>-I shortcut). Just choose *File → Share*, hold down the <Shift> key, and then select *Email Link to this Page*. Mail will open and create a new email message, planting a link to that page in the body of the message.**

## Synchronizing Email Signatures Across Computers

**Q. I have a recent iMac, and I'm planning to purchase a MacBook Air. I've created a lot of signatures in Mail on my iMac that I'd hate to have to re-create on my laptop. Is there any easy way to transfer those signatures to the laptop's copy of Mail?**

Ned Chessman

A. If you have set up the same iCloud account on each system and have configured each to synchronize email (you do this in the iCloud system preference), you'll find that your signatures will magically appear on the MacBook shortly after you launch Mail.

However, they might not be attached to a particular account. Instead, when you open Mail's preferences and click *Signatures*, you'll see your complete collection when you select All Signatures at the top of the account list, but no signatures attached to specific accounts. Should you wish for them to be attached, you must drag each to the correct account.

If that seems like a terrible bother because you have dozens and dozens of signatures attached to multiple accounts, you can copy the Signatures folder from the iMac to the MacBook. The location of that folder is *youruserfolder*/Library/Mail/V2/MailData. (To navigate to the Library folder within your user folder, just hold down the <Option> key while in the Finder and choose *Go → Library*.)

Finally, place the iMac Signatures folder on the MacBook, where it will replace the original Signatures folder, and then launch Mail. If you have the same accounts set up on the MacBook as you do on the iMac, your signatures should be attached to their correct accounts.

**Creating Default Folders** With Default Folder X, you can configure each application to save its files in a folder of your choosing.

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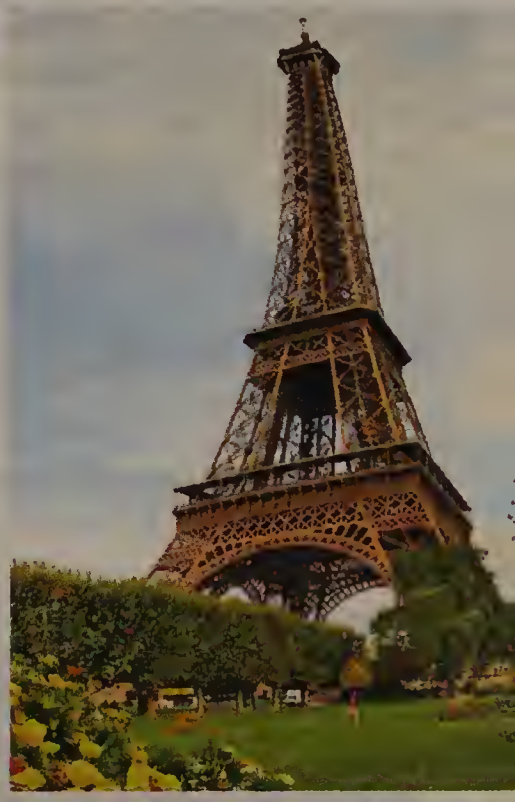
- Oh, the Things You Can Make
- Improve Your iOS Efficiency

**JOE KISSELL**
- Stay Safe Out There
- The Joy of (Plain) Text
- Living on a Desert Island with Only iOS
- 50 Things You Didn't Know Your iOS Device Can Do

**LYNNE LANCASTER, PH.D.**
- Intro to Culture & Technology in Gaul
- Fire-Based Technologies in Gaul
- Building an Amphitheater
- Aqueducts, Baths, and Water Mills



## Insider's tour of Cern

Pre-cruise: November 28, 2013—From the tiniest constituents of matter to the immensity of the cosmos, discover the wonders of science and technology at CERN. Join Bright Horizons for a private pre-cruise, custom, full-day tour of this iconic facility. (If the LHC is still undergoing its scheduled maintenance it is likely we will go into the LHC Tunnel.)

Whether you lean toward concept or application there's much to pique your curiousity. Discover the excitement of fundamental research and get a behind-the-scenes, insider's look at the world's largest particle physics laboratory.

Our full day will be led one of our speakers (TBA) and by other CERN physicists. We'll have an orientation; visit an experiment; get a sense of the mechanics of the large hadron collider (LHC); if at all possible, go down inside the LCH tunnel (picture above); make a refueling stop for lunch; and have time to peruse the grounds and exhibits on the history of CERN and the nature of its work. And if you're so inclined, the CERN gift shop.

The price is $899 per person (based on double occupancy). This trip is limited to 50 people. NOTE: CERN charges no entrance fee to visitors.

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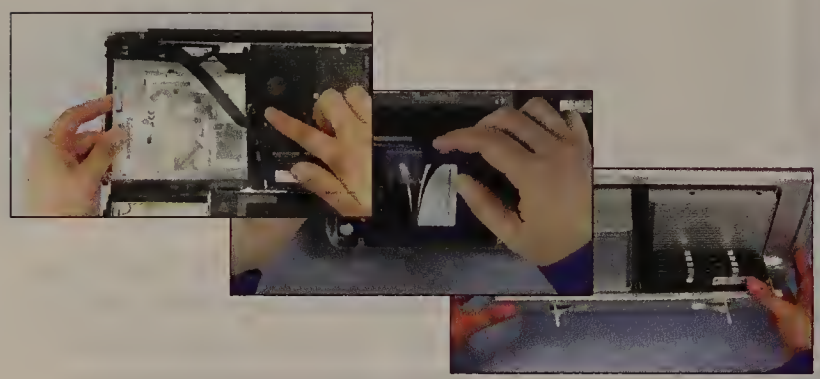

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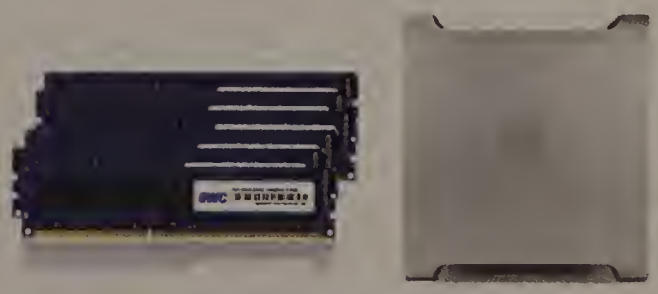

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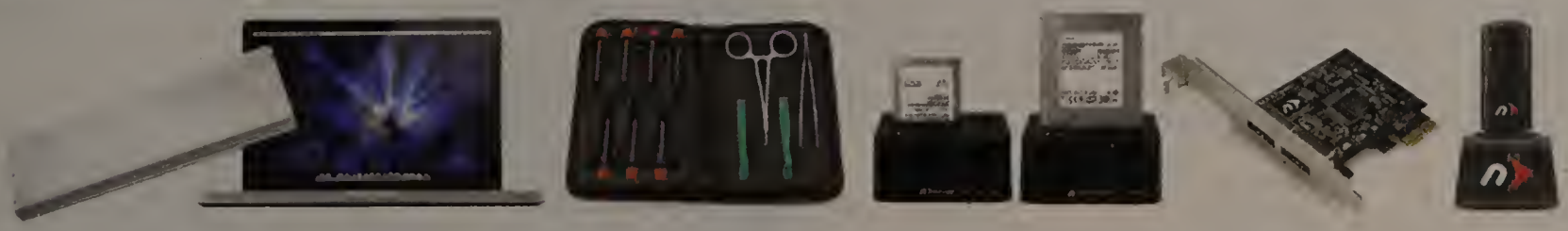

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By John Moltz

# Don't Fear the Touchscreen MacBook

Rumors are flying about an Apple watch, but how about some chatter for a touch-enabled Mac?

If you're just tuning in, please update your most-rumored-Apple-device status board to "smartwatch." Repeat: "Smartwatch" is the current rumor, having replaced "low-cost iPhone," which replaced "high-cost television."

While speculation about an Apple smartwatch is running high right now, I've been wondering about another potential device—one whose very concept gives me no small amount of trepidation.

The dreaded touchscreen Mac.

## Touch of Evil

Like a small-town pastor who rails against dancing, I have waged a long and fruitless war against screen-touching. When people touch my MacBook's screen with their fingertips to indicate what they're talking about, no amount of complaining has stopped them. "Fingers have oils in them!" I say. "And yours have what seems to be peanut butter on them!" They ignore my entreaties. *Touch.* I've fought it for years, but I'm starting to wonder if progress isn't on the side of screen-touching.

Tablets (that is, iPads) have created a new imperative for interaction. Though other manufacturers may have shipped touchscreen laptops first, Apple started us down this road. The difference between an iPhone and a Mac was big enough that our brains didn't confuse the two devices' distinct input methods. But when Apple started selling iPads, with screens only an inch or two smaller than that of an 11-inch MacBook Air, something clicked. Now it seems like my MacBook screen should respond when I touch it.

I've heard the same kind of story from other users as well. Perhaps we're all subject to some kind of group delusion. But if you've used an iPad, you know that touch has its advantages.

I like to imagine that the catacombs of One Infinite Loop are filled with more one-of-a-kind, twisted chimeras than the island of Doctor Moreau. I'd be surprised if a touchscreen MacBook wasn't lurking somewhere in there, waiting for the day when it's no longer a freak of nature.

I can't say it's going to happen for certain; I have no special knowledge. But one clue that Apple might be headed in that direction arose when the company switched from inverted scrolling to "natural" scrolling in Lion. Or maybe Apple was just pedantically insisting that the trackpad act the same as iOS devices do.

Of course, you can't just slap a touchscreen on a MacBook and call it a day. The last thing I want to do is navigate menu bars with my fingers. Try that on Microsoft's Surface for a while, and you'll be screaming at a litter of kittens in no time.

I haven't used a Surface extensively, but I have used one long enough to know that adding touch to a desktop operating system isn't a simple thing. I concede that Microsoft put a nice front end on Windows 8, but the minute you hit the classic desktop, it's as if you had sausage fingers. I don't know how to solve this problem—Microsoft doesn't either—but I've learned over the years that just because I don't know how to solve a problem doesn't mean Apple doesn't.

> iOS devices have taught us—particularly kids who are growing up with them—to expect screens to be responsive.

## Just the Right Touch

Although I don't like people touching my screen, in some instances I do want to perform an action by touch instead of by pointer or cursor. Dismissing notifications is a good example: In Mountain Lion, clicking a notification and dragging to the right dismisses it (which is especially useful for software-update notifications that have no button for banishing them). Doing this with a pointer isn't especially onerous, but swiping with a finger would be easier. You can also hover over the notification and swipe it away with two fingers on the trackpad and no click, but sometimes a screen element is just asking for a more pointed dismissal.

Over the years, iOS devices have taught us—particularly kids who are growing up with them—to expect screens to be responsive. Apple is the company that could do touchscreen computers right. Microsoft's approach has been to say, "It has touch because it's a laptop and a tablet! Also a floor wax! And an ear wax! No, wait, not that. Unless you're into that." Apple's approach, assuming this rumor actually materializes, will have to reinvent user interaction on the desktop.

I hope the company takes up that challenge. Even though I hate fingerprints on my screens, I like easier forms of input.

***John Moltz*** *recently gave up the glamour of working in corporate IT to write at his Very Nice Web Site (verynicewebsite.net).*

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